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HER MAJESTY'S VISIT TO PARIS.

PARIS, July 31st.

THE cordial and brilliant reception of Napoleon III. and the Empress Eugenie in London has not been forgotten by the French people. Nor is it likely to be effaced from their remembrance,

unless the reception which they are at this moment preparing for her Majesty Queen Victoria and her Royal Consort, in Paris, shall be of a splendour sufficient to eclipse the earlier glories of the Imperial visit to England. Even then it will not be forgotten, but remembered with all due honour as the precursor of an occasion still more auspicious and remarkable than itself. The Parisians

are determined that in this respect they will not suffer themselves to be outdone. They have made it a point of honour to repay with usury to the Queen of the English, the friendly and generous greeting which London bestowed upon the Emperor of the French; and nothing will be wanting on the part either of the Government or the people that can adorn and add magnificence to the series or



BOUDOIR FOR THE RECEPTION OF QUEEN VICTORIA, AT THE UNIVERSAL EXHIBITION, AT PARIS.

spectacles, which will present themselves to the eyes of Queen Victoria at every step of her progress, from her landing in France till her departure from its shores. In England the people are not accustomed to great shows and sights. A coronation (may it belong ere we see another!); a Royal procession to open Parliament; the crowd on the "Derby-day;" or a pageant like the funeral of the Duke of Wellington: such are almost the only grand spectacles the Londoners ever enjoy. The first and last are such rare occasions that the festivals and shows of Englishmen are things of little account to those who have witnessed the more gorgeous pageantry of popular rejoicings in Continental Europe. In Paris the case is different. The French love shows, are accustomed to and excel in them—as they do in every thing that requires taste to conceive, a public educated in the love and enjoyment of art to appreciate, and an unsparing liberality to carry into effect. The whole aspect of the streets and public buildings offers itself to aid the efforts of the Government when it desires to impress the imagination of the spectators. In London the spectators are themselves the show. The streets are mean, dingy, and unpicturesque, and no decoration that art can supply can make them otherwise. Nothing but the presence of good-humoured, orderly, and rejoicing multitudes, can impart a ray of grandeur to them; and these, it must be said, are never wanting at the call of Loyalty or Duty. But in Paris the most beautiful and picturesque city in the world, almost every street and public building is an appliance and aid to popular enthusiasm, whenever the nation and the Government agree to have a festival. As regards the approaching visit of the Queen, they are heartily agreed, that her reception shall be alike worthy of the people that gives, and the Sovereign that receives, it; and that it shall assert and prove to all Europe how intimate and how affectionate is the alliance which subsists, not only between the Emperor and the Queen, but between the two great nations over whose destinies it is their high privilege to preside. The enthusiasm is already at fever heat. To what pitch it will ultimately rise we need not at present enquire, though we imagine that nothing equal to it in intensity has ever yet found expression in France—proverbial as are the susceptibility, the generosity, and the gallantry, of its people. Indeed, we suspect that the last-named quality of the national mind enters largely into the feeling with which the approaching visit is regarded; and that if we had a King upon the throne of England, he might be received with a magnificence worthy of Imperial France, but not with such a *furor* of acclamation as that which will surround the path of Queen Victoria wherever she may show herself.

We may not unreasonably ask ourselves what effect this auspicious visit—this sealing of the bond of alliance between the two first nations in the world—this graceful and heartfelt return of international courtesy and friendship—will have on the mind and the councils of the Emperor of Russia, and on those of the Emperor of Austria and the King of Prussia? No other, we should imagine, than a wholesome one. The Czar himself will be forced, if he reflect at all, to contrast the position of his own gloomy and threatened capital with those of the two great States who have taken up arms to set limits to his rapacity and ambition, if not to chastise them. St. Petersburg feels most, if not all, of the horrors of war. Its very existence is menaced by hostile fleets. It has no coal, either for its manufactures, for the lighting of its streets with gas, or for the household comforts of its people. It suffers a famine in some articles—such as salt—which are necessities of life to all classes. Its commerce is almost annihilated. Its citizens are torn from the ruins of their business by a ruthless and inevitable conscription; and in the war which the Sovereign has provoked he has not a single victory to boast of, unless the massacres at Hango and Sinope are dignified to the Russian people with the name of honourable triumphs. Bankruptcy stares the nation in the face; and the vision of an impoverished, a proud, and a desperate nobility, plotting his overthrow as the punishment of his want of success, and the consequent stain upon the national honour, must sometimes arise before the mind of the Czar. To this must be added the depressing knowledge that the spirit of the whole civilised world is against him; and that his so-called friends in Germany cling to him not from love, but from fear, and would turn against him, if they had a reasonable assurance that he would be effectually beaten. The Sovereigns of Great Britain and France have no such dreary subjects of contemplation; and their people, though they have to submit to some sacrifices in pursuit of the great object which they have at heart, are happily relieved from the more pressing miseries of a state of war. The seas of the world are open to their commerce or to their pleasure. Their fleets can come and go wherever an errand of war or peace may direct them. Their trade and manufactures are uninterrupted. The multitudes suffer no want of any article of necessity, or even of luxury; and all classes are as well provided with everything which they need, as if Russia were submerged beneath the Arctic Ocean, or grew nothing of more value to civilised life than is to be gathered in the great desert of Sahara, or the pinnacles of her own Spitzbergen. Not only safety, but rejoicing, reigns within their capitals; and the people of both nations inaugurate with princely festivities the commencement of that new era of friendly intercourse and social progress which the war with Russia has been the means of expediting. So far from being threatened with bankruptcy, or even with a financial pressure, neither Great Britain nor France has made any serious inroad upon its resources; and a loan amounting to thirty millions sterling demanded by Napoleon III., has been taken up with such wondrous alacrity, that no less a sum than two and a half *miliards* of francs, or one hundred millions of pounds sterling has been offered to the Government by the French people. Such wealth, such confidence, and such zeal on the part of his opponents, must make the Czar reflect on his position. If they do not incline his ear to the counsels of prudence such facts cannot fail to exert some influence upon his mind, the more especially if he reflect at the same time that, contemporaneously with these indications of the power and resources of the Allies, Austria—one of the two States which strive to remain neutral—hopes that he may lose, and Prussia, the other, dreads lest he should win. The hopes of all other nations point in the same unmistakable manner to his discomfiture, and the only fear that perplexes the well-wishers of the freedom and independence

of Europe is that peace may be made upon dishonourable bases, and before the offender have been thoroughly punished for the wrong he has done. To expect that Alexander II., or any other Muscovite Sovereign, will forego that policy of aggression which is the inheritance of his race, and the secret spring of all their movements, whether in war or in diplomacy, is to expect too much; but France and England expect to deprive both him and his successors of the power—though, perhaps, not of the will—to convulse Europe whenever it suits the purposes of their ambition. If the Czar and his friends—whether Austrian or Prussian—calculate upon any chance of success in any possible coöperation between England and France, the approaching visit of Queen Victoria to Paris will tend to dissipate their hopes. Firm as the alliance previously was, the sojourn of her Majesty in France will make it firmer. The visit of Napoleon III. and the Empress Eugenie to London, endeared the one to the judgment, and the other to the affection, of the English people. Queen Victoria's visit will exert a similar influence on the still more excitable feelings of the French; and will long be commemorated by both nations as the most gratifying and splendid incident in their mutual history.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

PARIS, August 1.

THE month of August, 1855, is destined to be the date of one of the most remarkable epochs in the history of the Second Empire. The present is not the moment to go far back in this history. We take up the story of the alliance between England and France at the moment when Louis Napoleon landed, as Emperor of the French, at Dover. The welcome that met him there was the welcome of the English people to the able representative of a gallant nation. He was the personification of an alliance acknowledged by all parties to promise peace and healthful progress to the world. The cheers that greeted him were so much homage paid to France; and we may rest assured that if the Imperial throne have brought any days of unmixed pleasure to the great man who now occupies it, the week passed in England, as the guest of an English Monarch, are among them. He beheld, surging about him, a free people, using a wise liberty in his especial honour. He beheld the triumph of his policy in the strength of the alliance he had formed. And now, in return, the Queen is invited to make a triumphal progress to the capital of her late Imperial guest. From the moment when her foot shall touch the shore of Calais—under the walls, in every stone of which lies a story of historic interest—to that when she steps on board her yacht on her return to England, the Sovereign of the British people will find crowds of enthusiastic people to greet her. It is needless to state that no expense will be spared in the preparation of fêtes on a scale beyond any that have been held for very many years in France. A love of luxury possesses, at the present moment, every household. The wide-spread culture of art, which has been actively pursued throughout every department of France since the time of Napoleon the First, has produced a general craving for fine effects, gigantic shows, and monuments of fabulous extent. To please the people of Paris with illuminations thousands of lamplighters must be engaged, as on the 15th of every August. To content them with a ball, rooms not less spacious than those of the Hôtel de Ville must be thrown open. Thus, on ordinary occasions Parisian rejoicings far exceed in splendour those of any other capital. Where, then, may we reasonably fix the limit of the preparations for the reception of the Queen of England, lately the hostess of the Emperor and Empress? Even now, fabulous sums are named as set apart for expenses. Wonderful preparations are being made—not in one palace, but in three or four palaces. Fêtes and illuminations will be given—not only in Paris, but also at Versailles. Days of wondrous rejoicing are in store for Fontainebleau. The municipal authorities are adding "perfume to the violet" in the Prefect's house. No less than one hundred thousand troops are to be drafted from various camps, to present an imposing military spectacle on the Champ de Mars. The Imperial railway carriage is in course of elaborate preparation; and that the Royal guests of the French Emperor may make their entry into Paris by a pleasant route, a branch railway is being laid down from the terminus of the Northern Railway to one that will allow the Royal train to glide away to the great station of the Strasbourg Railway, which makes the fine termination of the Boulevard of the same name. Thus her Majesty, on her way to the Tuilleries, will keep along the principal thoroughfares of the French capital—viz., the Boulevards, the Rue Royale (or the Rue de la Paix), and the Rue de Rivoli. The probability is, that the cortège will take the Rue Royale; cross the Place de la Concorde—and then proceed along the quay to the southern entrance of the Tuilleries. Preparations are in active progress at every point from Fort Risban to the forest of Fontainebleau. The theatres also promise wonders: even Mlle. Rachel is to be turned for a few days from the voyage to America, in order to offer intellectual entertainment to her Majesty at the Théâtre Français. It appears, also, that the Boulevards are to be kept clear, on the evening of her Majesty's arrival, by companies of the National Guard of Paris.

Of the preparations in progress at the Universal Exhibition little can be said at present. The state of the Exhibition generally is such as to offer to any illustrious visitor a ready and a worthy welcome. It will be really curious to contrast the Exhibition as it will appear on the day when the Queen first visits it with the Exhibition of the 15th of May last. It will be difficult to believe that a beginning so faulty in every respect could be turned to a triumph of industrial art so complete. No detail has, at last, been thought too minute to occupy the awakened attention of the Imperial Commissioners. From the arrangement of the refreshment-stalls to that of the Panorama Building, with its brilliant shows from the Gobelins, Aubusson, Sevres, and Christophe, with the Regent glowing in the centre of all—every part of the Universal Exhibition has been completed, and with that taste for which our allies have long enjoyed a just reputation. But not the least notable corner of the Exhibition buildings are the retiring rooms of the Emperor and Empress. They are remarkable for the richness of the materials with which they have been furnished, no less than for the effect with which these materials have been turned to account. The salon is exquisitely ornamented and hung with tapestry worked one hundred years ago by the ladies of St. Cyr, under the superintendence of Madame de Maintenon. This tapestry alone is worth £4000. In the salon, among other things worthy of note are, the carriage presented to the Empress by Prince Albert (ornamented with paintings of the four seasons); and the inkstand of Napoleon I. when at St. Helena. The boudoir, hung with blue watered silk, and furnished with some of the richest art-furniture of Paris, is in every way remarkable for the taste which presided at its arrangement. From the glass, in a frame of exquisitely-wrought crystal, to the quaint little statuette upon the table (a present made to the Empress), every object has its story, according to the very valuable attendant who waits upon visitors. Here the Queen will repose when her Majesty pays a visit to the Universal Exhibition: and hence the illustrious visitors of the Emperor will advance into the midst of the silk regions of Lyons.

THE BOROUGH OF SUTTON.—When Sir Mark Wood was owner of this borough, there were only six burghage houses in it, and he himself, being the only freeholder, had the choice of members in his own person; and united in himself the functions of member of parliament, magistrate, churchwarden, overseer, surveyor of highways, and collector of taxes.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

THE Empress has carried out her intention of proceeding from the Eaux Bonnes to Biarritz, whither the Emperor is gone to rejoin her. Their Majesties will return together, and will probably pass some days at the château of Villeneuve l'Étang, where preparations are being made to receive them. During the absence of the Empress, his Imperial Majesty gave at this residence a number of dinners, chiefly of a comparatively private character, though at one of the last were present various members of the diplomatic body.

The great interest of the day is the anticipated visit of Queen Victoria. Her Majesty is to disembark at Boulogne, and arrive by the Chemin de Fer du Nord; but, as the aspect of Paris in that quarter is far from favourable, it is arranged that for this occasion there will be established from the station of La Chapelle a line to communicate with the Eastern Railway, by which means all the objectionable part will be avoided, and the Royal cortège will enter the capital by the magnificent Boulevard du Centre; will pursue the whole line of the Boulevards to the Madeleine, and thence pass by the Rue Royale, the Place Louis XV., and the Champs Élysées, on to St. Cloud. It is rather a singular coincidence that it will be on the 18th of August, the "Jour de Ste. Hélène," that the Sovereign of England first enters the dominions of the nephew and successor of the Emperor Napoleon. The following day, being Sunday, her Majesty will pass in complete rest and retirement; and on Monday will commence her visits to the different objects of interest in and about the capital. It is said that, in order to save her Majesty the night visit to St. Cloud, it is probable that the companies of the Théâtre Français and the Gymnase will perform at that palace. Already the most costly preparations are being made at the Tuilleries, St. Cloud, and Versailles for the fêtes to be held there. At the latter château, the Salle de l'Opéra is being restored as it was in the time of Louis XV., and the most magnificent lustres, girandoles, carpets, &c., are being placed in it; while at the Hôtel de Ville are being established new apparatus for a most gorgeous illumination of gas, and a set of decorations in the most splendid style of Louis XIV. It is supposed that there will be a grand military spectacle in the Champs de Mars, as various important works are being executed in that quarter.

Great sensation has been caused by the speech pronounced by the Prince Napoleon at the banquet offered him by the Commissioners of the Exposition Industrielle, from the frankness and clearness with which he expresses the democratic principles he is known to entertain, and to which he has so faithfully adhered, under all circumstances.

Among the objects that excite the greatest attention at the Exhibition are some of the English weaving-machines; especially one from Coventry, for the manufacture of ribbons. This apparatus executes at the same time two wide ribbons, bearing the portraits of the Emperor and Empress, surrounded by tricoloured flags. These are drawn and tinted with a correctness, a delicacy, and a finish, equal to the works of the pencil; and the machine which executes them operates without aid, almost without surveillance. No particular workman is employed to attend to it, and it is only now and then that one of the employés gives it a glance, and sees that it is supplied with materials to work upon.

At the Beaux-Arts has just been placed the statue, commanded by the Duc de Luynes, of M. Simart, executed after the description left by Pausanias of the celebrated Pallas of Phidias. This statue is between seven and eight feet high; the head, hands, and feet are of ivory; the eyes, the necklace, and the ear-rings in precious stones; the drapery in silver gilt, of various tints. It has taken nine years of constant labour to accomplish, which is in nowise astonishing, the work being executed with the finish of the smallest and most delicate jewel.

"Paris," at the Porte St. Martin, continues to be the great success of the moment. The whole of the magnificent costumes, between one and two thousand in number, were designed by Mme. Delphine Baron, who sustains two or three rôles in the piece.

AMERICA.

The mail steam-ship *America*, which left New York on the 17th ult., arrived at Liverpool on Sunday.

The Prohibitory Liquor Law appears to be the most exciting topic of the day. The public mind seems to have settled upon the conclusion that the whole affair is an unadulterated humbug. In the rural districts, and in some portions of Long Island, the liquor traffic has been generally abandoned, or the law is enforced, but in all the large cities it is a dead letter. Wherever the liquor interest is strong enough to resist the enforcement of the law, the authorities seem unwilling to meddle with the dealers. The question as to the intoxicating properties of lager beer is attracting much attention. The recent seizure of lager at Poughkeepsie is the more singular as Judge Strong, of that district, has decided that lager beer is not an intoxicating drink.

A Mexican correspondent, writing on the 23rd of June, furnishes some very interesting particulars with regard to the position and prospects of the late contending parties in Southern Mexico. After retiring from Chilpancingo, Santa Anna's forces were surrounded by the Revolutionary generals, well supplied with infantry, cavalry, artillery, and ammunition. Their names and head-quarter stations are noted. Alvarez was enjoying an unbounded popularity at Texas, near the city of Acapulco. The people are panting for liberty.

Colonel Kinney and a small party of filibusters were wrecked near St. Domingo, while on the passage to Nicaragua. No lives were lost.

INDIA AND CHINA.

The steamer *Calcutta* arrived at Trieste on Monday with the India and China mails. The dates are—Calcutta, July 18; Bombay, June 27; Shanghai, June 4; Canton, June 8; Hong-Kong, June 10.

There is a very general impression at Bombay that after the rains a force will be despatched from Western India, either, as some imagine, to Egypt, en route to the Crimea, or, according to the more general belief, to the Persian Gulf, with the view of occupying Karack and Bushire. The advantages of the latter plan, in the event of the Court of Teheran declaring for Russia and attempting to assist her with an auxiliary army in Asia Minor, are sufficiently obvious. It is in her southern provinces that Persia is vulnerable to us, and a blow struck there would paralyse her for movements beyond her frontier.

Kehun Dill Khan, one of the rulers of Candahar, the brother of Dost Mahomed of Cabul, the inveterate foe both of his brother and the English, has terminated his last intrigue and his life. He was discovered to have entered into a conspiracy to take away the Dost's life and create a revolution at Cabul, of which he intended to take advantage. His confederates were discovered and put to death, and soon after he was carried off by disease.

In one direction our frontier war appears to be going on upon a considerable scale. The Nepaulese, under Jung Bahadoor, are in the Thibet country nearly 100,000 strong, with 50 guns.

There is little news from Burmah. Seven of Captain Madigan's murderers have been tried and condemned. The mission to Ava was to start from Prome on the 1st of July.

Her Majesty's steamer *Styx* was at Shanghai, having left Admiral Sir James Stirling at Nagasaki on the 19th of May. His Excellency was about to sail for Hakodadi. It was reported that the Russian Admiral had embarked his men and the guns of the *Diana* frigate on board native craft, and had left Japan for the Russian settlements in the north.

The French frigates *Constantine* and *Sibylle*, and the steamer *Colbert*, were cruising in the Japanese waters.

Her Majesty's steamer *Styx* was waiting for the 9th of April mail, when she would rejoin the British squadron at Japan.

At Canton there was little of moment to report. The Mandarins are said to have retaken the important town of Shao-King-Foo, situated in the Canton province, and the rebels have retreated towards the defiles on the borders of Kwangsi, where they are likely to hold their ground and oppose an effectual barrier to transit from the tea-growing districts.

Piracy in the Chinese waters is as rife as ever. Her Majesty's steamer *Rattler*, Commander W. A. Fellowes, has, however, been actively employed of late, and done some good service against them.

THE SIEGE OF SEBASTOPOL.

THE telegraphic intelligence from the Crimea has been unusually meagre for the last week or two. The most recent letters say that everything was planned for a general assault to take place about the end of last month, but it is probable that it would be deferred till somewhat later. Telegraphic advices from St. Petersburg, forwarded via Berlin, contain the following despatch from Prince Gortschakoff, dated the evening of Saturday last, the 28th July:—"Yesterday the enemy opened a heavy cannonade, which lasted two hours and a half, against Bastion No. 4. We replied vigorously to his fire. Otherwise nothing new has occurred."

Letters from Paris state that official despatches have been received announcing the commencement of important operations before Sebastopol. In corroboration of this we find, in a despatch from Kamiesch, dated July 29, the following statement:—"This port and Balaklava are crowded with vessels lately come from France and England. A grand expedition is preparing." There are various reports as to what the intended expedition is. One letter affirms that a grand attack will be made on Sebastopol simultaneously with the assault by land. Letters dated July 20 say that the attack would take place in fifteen days, which would be about the 4th instant. The last order of the day of General Pelissier says:—

The enemy, closely invested in the place, made, for several days past, efforts, by means of sorties, to interrupt our works before the Malakoff. They have completely failed in their two attempts. These combats, sustained with coolness and resolution, are a severe lesson which our guardians of the trenches will give to the Russians whenever they try, by means of sorties, to arrest the irresistible march of our works against the place.

The garrison in Sebastopol has lately been reinforced, but it is suffering greatly from disease.

THE SIEGE-WORKS.

The new approaches, according to the latest accounts, were making satisfactory progress, although on our side the advance appears to be not quite equal to that made by our allies. Their works, when observed from certain points of view, seem to be almost in contact with the abattis of the Malakoff-hill. The actual distance between them is probably not more than eighty or one hundred yards. They have carried their trenches forward with remarkable determination and perseverance, notwithstanding the heavy direct fire of shell, grape, and musketry from the Korniloff bastion above, and an equally severe flanking fire from the batteries on either side. The French works carried forward on the right, towards the line of Russian batteries extending from the Malakoff hill to the west side of Careening-harbour, though occupying a vast extent of ground, appear in a very secure and complete state.

The progress of the sap towards the Redan was stopped for some days, but great efforts have been made to render the works already advanced both more commodious and more secure. The necessity of this provision will be rendered apparent whenever the day may arrive for large bodies of troops to be assembled in the extreme front, preparatory to going forward to the assault. It will be remembered, that, when the Quarry work was taken, several trenches were found to be connected with it, two of which extended completely across the lower part of Frenchman's-hill to be connected with a covered approach to the Mamelon Vert. The nearest to our works of these two Russian trenches became our foremost, or third, parallel, in the right attack. Some call it the fourth parallel, reckoning the line of batteries between the 21-gun battery and our old advanced work as a second parallel, and the advanced work itself as the third parallel. This line of batteries and the old advanced work were by many others reckoned together as forming only one parallel, and by these the nearest Russian trench, having been properly converted and strengthened, was looked upon as our third parallel. The more distant Russian trench had a very considerable curve given to its direction, the convexity being on the Russian side. This not only provided more free space and ease of movement for the enemy, but gave them also the advantage of a covering fire, in case at any time they should be called upon to resist an attack in this direction. Our approaches towards the Redan have been carried so far in advance of the Quarry Battery that the general line of direction of the Russian trench just described has been left considerably behind; and it became necessary, not only for greater security, but also for other important purposes, to construct a commodious covered approach in front of the Russian trench, and with such a direction that it might be connected with the French works advancing up the Malakoff-hill. This has been completed as far as the ravine dividing our right attack from the ascent leading to the Malakoff. This work, which is solid and spacious, has its concavity turned towards the Russian works extended from the properly left of the Redan.

OFFICERS, NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS, AND PRIVATES KILLED AND WOUNDED FROM THE 16TH TO THE 19TH JULY INCLUSIVE.

KILLED.

JULY 17.—2nd Battalion 1st Foot: Lance-Corporal John Rice. 18th: Private John Nolan. 42nd: Captain R. A. Fraser; Privates Alexander Baxter, Daniel Sutherland. 48th: Privates James Byndman, Thomas Ridgway. 47th: Private Paul Fennell. Royal Sappers and Miners: Corporal George Luke.

JULY 18.—77th Foot: Private John Hanlon. 89th: Private John Jones.

WOUNDED.

JULY 16.—7th Foot: Privates Hughes, severely; Jonathan Moore, slightly. 17th: Private Patrick Murphy, severely. 34th: Privates Joseph Bredan, severely; Joseph King, Joseph Logne, Bernard Early, slightly. 63rd: Privates James Ball, Edward Carey, severely. 10th: Privates Michael Carty, George Riley, George Green, severely; James Duffy, slightly. 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade: Private Thomas Woods, slightly. JULY 17.—3rd Battalion Grenadier Guards: Private Elliot Smith, slightly. 1st Battalion Coldstream Guards: Corporal James Goodhand, Privates George Lamb and Thomas Paey, slightly. 1st Battalion Scots Fusilier Guards: Privates William West and Benjamin Thomas, slightly. 2nd Battalion 1st Foot: Privates Thomas Churchman, George Norman, dangerously; James Pryde, slightly. 18th: Privates John O'Brien and Bartholomew Flavin, severely. 28th: Private James Holmes, severely. 41st: Private Walter Joyce, slightly. 2nd: Sergeant Samuel Forestry, slightly; Corporal John Smith, dangerously; Privates Richard Fitzgerald and William Grubbanks, severely. 55th: Lance-Sergeant William Gorman, severely. 57th: Private George McIntosh, severely. 79th: Private Hugh McVey, slightly. 92nd: Corporal James Kiddle, severely; Private William Campbell, slightly. JULY 18.—30th Foot: Private James Parker, severely. 31st: Private Wm. Woods, dangerously. 49th: Privates John Slattery, James McKenzie, slightly; John Wright, severely. 25th: Privates Thomas Mcough, severely; George M'Loughlin, John Cullinane, and Thomas Murphy, slightly. 80th: Sergeant J. Williams, slightly. 94th: Private Francis Sodus, severely. JULY 19.—1st Battalion 1st Foot: Privates James Herbert, severely. 34th: Private H. Rostrom, severely. 18th: Private James McGowan, severely. 83rd: Private John Noone, slightly. 89th: Privates George Spiera, dangerously; David Burke and Robert McQuitty, slightly. 90th: Private Patrick Dwyer, severely. 97th: Private Hugh Connor, severely. 2nd Battalion Rifle Brigade: Privates John Grogan and George Wilson, slightly. ROYAL NAVAL BRIGADE.—Killed: John Whitehead, A.B., her Majesty's ship Queen.

THE WAR IN ASIA.

Kars is still safe, but it is impossible to say how long it may be so. The latest accounts from the Russian head-quarters come down to the 5th July—ten days later than the last report. At that time the Russians were in position before Kars, and greatly hindered in their operations by the heavy rains, which had converted the streams into torrents, and had rendered the roads impracticable. Making a careful reconnaissance of Kars on the 26th, General Mouravieff moved the position of the army from Mougaradjik to a stronger position at Keni-Kieni on the 28th, and, leaving there a portion of the army under Prince Gagarine to watch Kars, he marched with the main body towards the Soghanlu Dagh. The object of his expedition was ostensibly to reconnoitre the mountain passes, especially that of Barduze, and to sweep up all the provisions and stores within reach of his cavalry. His route lay through Katanly, where he rested one night thence to Barduze, which a flying detachment reached on the 1st July, capturing a large convoy of provisions in the pass. On the same night the main body passed the summit of the Soghanlu, and halted for the night on the western incline; but he ventured no further on the road to Erzeroum. From his camp he sent out a detachment to Zevine—a village to the south of Barduze, and ascertained that it was not occupied. On the 4th July, "his object being obtained," he retired upon Keni-Kieni, reaching that encampment on the 6th July.

General Mouravieff, whatever may have been his object, thus really executed a patrol with the greater part of his army, and ascertained that neither Barduze nor Zevine was occupied except by a few irregulars, who naturally made off before a superior force. He found considerable supplies, but, although he pressed the arabs of the country into his service, he could not obtain sufficient to carry off all he found, and a large proportion were therefore destroyed. No doubt this promenade in the mountains gave rise to the report that Mouravieff was marching on Erzeroum, disregarding Kars. If such were his object, he most probably found that he could not trust to his communications, the left flank of which was barely covered by General Souloff, who was marching by Toprak Kaleh to bring the Erivan detachment into direct communication with the main army.

General Mouravieff pushed his patrols no further on the Erzeroum road than to Zevine. Had he seriously determined on a march to Erzeroum, or had not that determination been shaken by unforeseen difficulties, he would doubtless have endeavoured to ascertain whether Hassan Kaleh, the key of the valley of Erzeroum, was occupied in force or neglected. It is more than probable that the appearance of Vely Pacha on the left flank, although lightly spoken of in the Russian despatches, had in some degree determined the retrograde movement from the Soghanlu Dagh. It is remarkable that General Mouravieff abstains from all mention of any troops whatever in his front, and, so far as we can gather from these

despatches, there were none within the range of his information. But this could hardly be the case; and the prudent reserve of the Russian Government leave us in ignorance of the real object of Mouravieff's advance, and the real reason why he retired.

It is now said that Omer Pacha is to be sent to Asia, and with him the Turkish army now lying useless before Sebastopol. This plan is generally approved. By sending off the Turks from the Crimea, where they have been of no use whatever, they will regain that independence of position which they possessed at the opening of the war. They do not seem well adapted for co-operating with European armies, but they have shown that they can do a great deal in their own way.

MURDER OF GENERAL BEATSON.

A telegraphic despatch from Constantinople, on Wednesday, brought the melancholy intelligence that the Bashi-bozouks, who had been for a long time under the command of General Beatson, have filled the measure of their iniquities by murdering their General. It will be recollected that, at the outset of the war, the celebrated French General Yusuf and our General Beatson undertook the disciplining of the fierce levies known as the Bashi-bozouks. General Yusuf, who had tamed the wild Arabs of the Desert and disciplined the tribes of Algeria, soon found that all his experience, his patience, and his firmness were utterly unavailing, and he gave up the attempt in despair. Our gallant countryman, however, persevered, and it was hoped his endeavours would be crowned with success. Latterly, a great body of the Bashi-bozouks have been encamped under his command on the further shore of the Dardanelles. Amongst these men, we regret to say, frequent signs of insubordination were manifest, and, about a fortnight ago, an act of atrocious violence was committed, which led to further mischief. Two officers of the corps were walking with their wives in the neighbouring country, when a party of Bashi-bozouks fell upon, and assaulted, and outraged the ladies. The moment the General heard of this villany he ordered the miscreants under arrest. A great portion of their rascally comrades, however, sympathised with them, and, proceeding to the General's house in open mutiny, struck their yataghans into the ground, and, piling up combustible materials, threatened, and that in the most fearful earnest, that unless their comrades were instantly released from arrest they would set fire to the house, and burn the General alive, with his wife and children. General Beatson had no alternative, and liberated the men, who, with their comrades, paraded about with every demonstration of triumph, and finally set out for Broussa, laying no tender hands upon the property of the inhabitants, and with apparent intentions of pillaging in every direction. This was the last thing heard of them, up to the receipt of the despatch on Wednesday, which indicates so sad a termination to a distinguished and honourable career.

STATE REFORM.—AN ILLUSTRATION.

In our Journal of June 16th we pointed out the necessity of having a Finance Committee of the House of Commons appointed every Session, to which the Estimates for the service of the year should be referred, and by which they should be examined. On Monday night the subject was noticed in the House by Mr. Wise, the member for Stafford, who adopted the view stated in this Journal, and expressed his regret that the Estimates were not referred to such a Committee. Had they been so referred, it is impossible that the proceedings which have taken place this week could have occurred to illustrate some of the vices of the present system.

On Monday the House of Commons, in Committee of Supply, began to vote the Estimates for the Civil Service. Their total amount is £6,566,963. They embrace eight distinct publications, in folio—each containing on an average about thirty-five pages. In the whole there are about 180 items or separate estimates, each being, as the rule, different to some extent from the estimate for the same service for the year before. In many cases the services and the estimates for them are entirely new. We may take as an example a vote proposed this year, for the first time, of £40,000 for the Cape of Good Hope, to carry into effect a very doubtful project of the Governor for securing the frontier of the colony and civilising the neighbouring tribes of Kafirs, Fingoes, and other savages. To make the project effective, it will require most likely to be extended year by year; but the Governor modestly puts down the expense at £40,000 per annum for ten years. To vote the first £40,000 implies a sanction of the whole £400,000; and this estimate, with more than a hundred others, some of them similarly proposed for the first time, was submitted to the Commons at the end of July. The House is at the same time informed that it must break up in a fortnight. The Ministerial whitebait dinner is already announced. Many members have paired off for the Session, and all are now desirous of getting away. They have much more business to perform than they can get through, and they huddle it all up in a disgraceful manner. Legislation—the fountain of all administration, the greatest and most solemn of all labour—is actually at all times performed in a more confused and slovenly manner than any other business in the country; and, at the close of the Session, when it is most confused and hurried, then the money of the public, for purposes which require to be carefully scrutinised, is hastily voted. Estimates to the number of 180, amounting to a sum, in all, of more than six millions and a half, besides the supplemental votes for the war, are hurried through by the Chairman of the Committee of Supply in a few hours. Several of them are accompanied by elaborate explanations which are laid before the House to justify the vote, but these there is no time to study. Some of the votes violate the principles of economical science, to which the Secretary of the Treasury from his known opinions must be decidedly opposed, but he proposes and recommends them. In others the statements contradict the elements of arithmetic, being at one place £816,323, or with a supplementary estimate £831,323, and at another £846,670. They require, therefore, to be most carefully examined, both as to principles and detail, by the body which votes them, and professes to guard the property of the tax-payers from the greediness of officials. But the House of Commons is obliged to take them on trust; it has no alternative but to vote them or stop, as is said, the public service; and so these many millions are voted, as the rule, just as they are proposed by the Secretary of the Treasury. Practically, the control of the House of Commons over the public money, on which the nation relies to secure economy and the due application of its resources, is a mere nullity. It has dwindled into a fiction; and we wonder that the gentlemen who represent the people allow themselves to be made the instruments for continuing such a false and hollow mockery. If now and then a member remonstrates and resists as to some particular vote, the bearings of which he has made himself acquainted with, he has no feasible opportunity of explaining his views to the House and the public. In the month of July or August the House will not listen to him, and his opposition is overborne by the crowd of officials and impatient members who think only of hurrying the business to an end.

It is supposed, indeed, that these estimates are published in the early part of the Session. They are then ordered by the House of Commons to be printed; but the last of them was not laid on the table till July 26th; and many of the estimates published at an early period were corrected by subsequent estimates, and they could not be accurately known till the end of July. They are dated, Whitehall, Treasury Chambers, 27th March, 1855. But, being so dated, they contain documents—a letter, for example, from Lord John Russell, dated May 14, 1855; and a letter from Sir W. Molesworth, dated July 7, 1855—showing very clearly that these documents were not laid before Parliament till the end of July, though erroneously dated March 27. This indeed is one of the many specimens of the misleading confusion to be found in these estimates. But if they were all prepared and laid before the House in March, that would only place them in the hands of the members, leaving it optional to examine them. No member is especially bound to do so, nor are any of the members officially bound to examine them in concert. The result is, they never are effectually examined; and the money wrung from the hard-working tax-payers is spent more carelessly and more unadvisedly than

the income of a profligate. This is the great source of abuse; and till this be stopped Administrative Reform will be of little avail.

The one hundred and eighty items of the Civil Service Estimates embrace very different things—parks for the pleasure of Royalty, and harbours of refuge for ships exposed to wreck; the rewards of Ministers, and the expense of convicts; the encouragement of science and education, and the government of the Colonies; a provision for clergy, and for captured negroes, lying-in hospitals, and lighthouses, Army and Navy medals, street improvements, and Arctic discoveries—and for all these multifarious subjects one officer generally moves all the votes and gives all the explanations. The Secretary of the Treasury, for the time being, must be the best-crammed man that ever opens his mouth to tell what he is told—the widest conduit now known for conveying, when tapped, official knowledge in dribbles to the public. That he is sometimes unable to give full and correct information on every topic that is brought forward is far less surprising than that he is able to give information on so many topics. As the representative of the Treasury, he has to answer for some half dozen or more officials, each of whom ought to be, on the departmental plan which we suggested on June 16th, in the House, to explain the expenditure he recommends. What can the Secretary of the Treasury know of the Public Infirmaries in Ireland, or of the Universities in Scotland, or of the Hospital for Incurables, or of the merits of Dissenting ministers? Yet for all these, and a hundred more diversified subjects for which money is voted, one man is obliged to answer. The result is, that nobody is responsible for the expenditure, or really knows for what the money is actually wanted, or on what it is actually expended, but some very subordinate official, a chief clerk, or head of an hospital, who gets the money, crams the Secretary, and never appears to answer for the outlay. Till the House of Commons insists on having all the estimates of the money to be voted submitted for rigid examination to a well-constituted committee of its own members, and till that committee shall be able to order before it some one person responsible in every department for the expenditure, who shall really know why the money is expended, and what services are actually performed for it, the financial control of the House of Commons will continue to be a juggle and a farce.

At present, when the actual expenditure is fast running up to £100,000,000, this subject acquires great additional importance. We affirm—not lightly, not in ignorance, but with knowledge, and from a deep conviction—that the bulk of the officials, from the highest to the lowest, will take advantage of the disposition of the nation to contribute freely to the war, to swell the expenditure in every direction, and for objects even adverse to the war. While it has been promulgated, for example, that the sum applied to promote education and science has been lessened, it has, in fact, been increased £125,266 in the present year. While a small decrease in the total estimate for the Civil Service of £87,908 has been paraded as a merit, an examination of the details shows us that this sum is more than accounted for by the comparative completion of buildings, such as the two Houses of Parliament, which must at some time or other be finished; by the expense of the coinage being only half as much in 1855-6 as in 1854-5; and by an enormous charge of almost half a million for printing and stationery in 1854—a large portion of which defrayed the expense of the Census—being lessened by upwards of £70,000.

The legitimate expenses of the Civil Service, abating the extra expenses, which are not this year required, are greater than last year, and the apparent saving has no real existence. Instead of the expenditure on other objects being curtailed, it is increased; and, under cover of the large sum required by the war, money is obtained for other purposes. We are told that State Reform must begin with the electors, and we admit that there is no inconsiderable corruption in the electoral body, but it could not prevail amongst them were there no corruption at the fountain-head. It is the especial business of the Ministers who undertake to guide the nation to put a stop to corruption; but this is not the especial business of the people. When, those, however, who ought to put a stop to it encourage it; when they obtain votes of money on sham or unjust pretences; when they study rather how much they can get than how much they can save and dispense with; they are much more to blame than the people, for whose reform they pretend to be anxious. For all the mismanagement in voting the Estimates the Ministers are exclusively to blame. However necessary reform may be for the people, it is still more necessary for the Ministers. Till they set the example of being thoroughly efficient and honest, in the widest sense of the word, we shall look in vain for honesty and efficiency in the classes below them.

THE COMMAND OF THE ARMY IN THE EAST.—There have been many rumours lately in circulation of the recall of the present Commander-in-Chief of the English Army in the Crimea. These rumours, we are able to state, are without foundation, as not only has General Simpson not been recalled, but there is no reason to suspect the slightest intention of recalling him. At the same time it is proper to state that General Simpson's health is not of the strongest, and that, therefore, it will excite but little surprise if he find himself unable to cope for a protracted period with the vast labours and incessant anxieties of the chief command. It is not probable, in the event of General Simpson's coming home, that a new Commander-in-Chief will be sent out from England, as Lord Raglan was almost the only one of the veterans of our last great war that was really fit for service.—*Morning Post.*

LAUNCH OF THE "MARLBOROUGH."—The intended launch of the monitor ship *Marlbrough*, at Portsmouth, on Tuesday afternoon, attracted an enormous crowd. It is said not less than 50,000 persons were present. All being in readiness, Mr. Abethell, the Master Shipwright, was presented to her Majesty, and gave into her hands the garlanded bottle of wine which hung suspended, and which, precisely at twelve o'clock, her Majesty dashed against the cutwater, pronouncing simultaneously "Success to the *Marlbrough*." Shouts arose on all sides, the bands of the Guard of Honour and of the Dockyard Brigade played the National Anthem and "Rule, Britannia," and the Court returned to the Royal pavilion to see the ship emerge from the shed. Mr. Abethell then gave the order to the artificers below to knock away the blocks, which occupied an ominously long time; at length, at twenty-five minutes past twelve, she moved, a general salvo from the lungs of the countless thousands proclaimed the fact, and never did ship appear to take the water more satisfactorily until she got two-thirds out of the shed, when, to the astonishment of everybody, she slowly brought up, as if checked by some mighty influence, and remained immovable on the ways, the bows remaining under the shed and the after body in the harbour! So unlooked for a casualty took every one by surprise, while the enthusiasm which greeted her start from the slip subsided into silence. Meanwhile the ship hung fast till the next tide, a little after mid-night, when the launch was completed by the united and energetic exertions of 2000 men, and the ship now lies safe in Portsmouth harbour. Next week we shall illustrate the Launch.

RIOT AND LOSS OF LIFE NEAR GODALMING.—For some time past a number of men have been engaged excavating the ground at Haslemere, a few miles from Godalming, in order to form the new Portsmouth direct line of railway. Several of the navvies on Saturday night, as was their usual custom, proceeded to a beershop in the neighbourhood, when, after drinking for some time, a quarrel ensued between the men. From words they came to blows, and the matter at last began to assume so threatening an aspect that the landlord of the house sent for the police. In a very short time the inspector of the Haslemere district arrived, followed by two or three of his men, who endeavoured, but in vain, to quell the disturbance. The navvies, the moment they perceived the police enter, signalled to others; and, to prevent their companions from being taken into custody, they commenced a fearful onslaught upon the police, by knocking them on the head with anything they could lay their hands upon. The inspector received one blow, but of such a violent character that he was stunned. Medical assistance was promptly obtained; but, whilst the surgeon was attending to the unfortunate officer, the navvies recommenced their work of cruelty, and severely beat the medical man. Some of the men were apprehended and safely lodged in confinement, and eventually the riot was quelled. The unfortunate inspector lingered in great pain for little more than one hour, when he died. The melancholy catastrophe has caused a painful degree of excitement throughout the district.

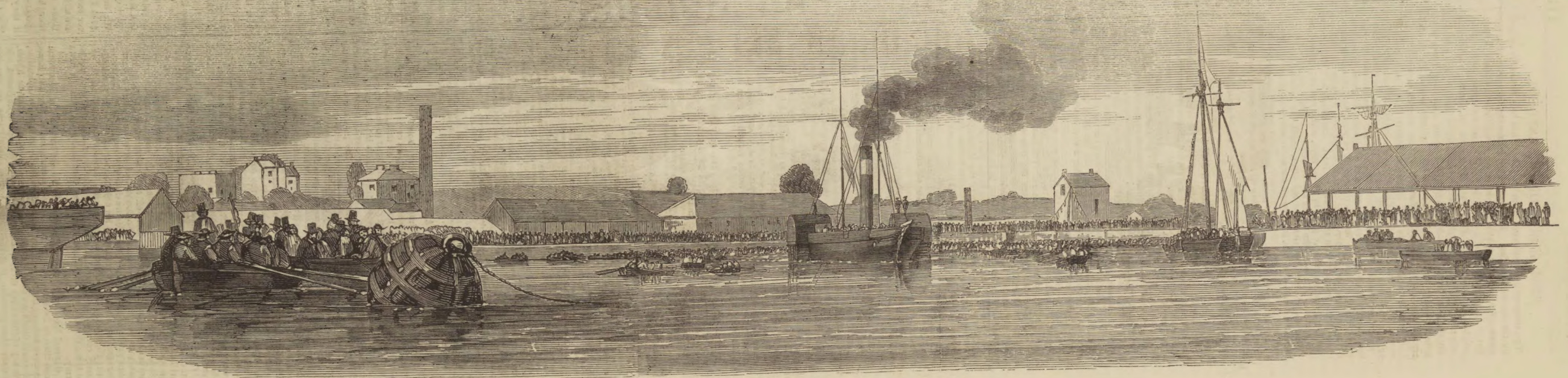
APPREHENDED INCREASE OF IMPORT DUTIES.—In consequence of the rumours which have prevailed, and which are said to be without foundation, respecting an intention on the part of the Government to add ten per cent to customs duties, the payments of duty on imported goods in bond have amounted to about one million sterling in Dublin within the last ten days.

APPLES.—Merstham, on the Brighton Railway, has long been celebrated for its very productive apple-orchards. The rectory orchard, of little more than two acres, has been known to yield above 800 bushels of apples in a year.

FUNERAL OF THE LATE LORD RAGLAN.

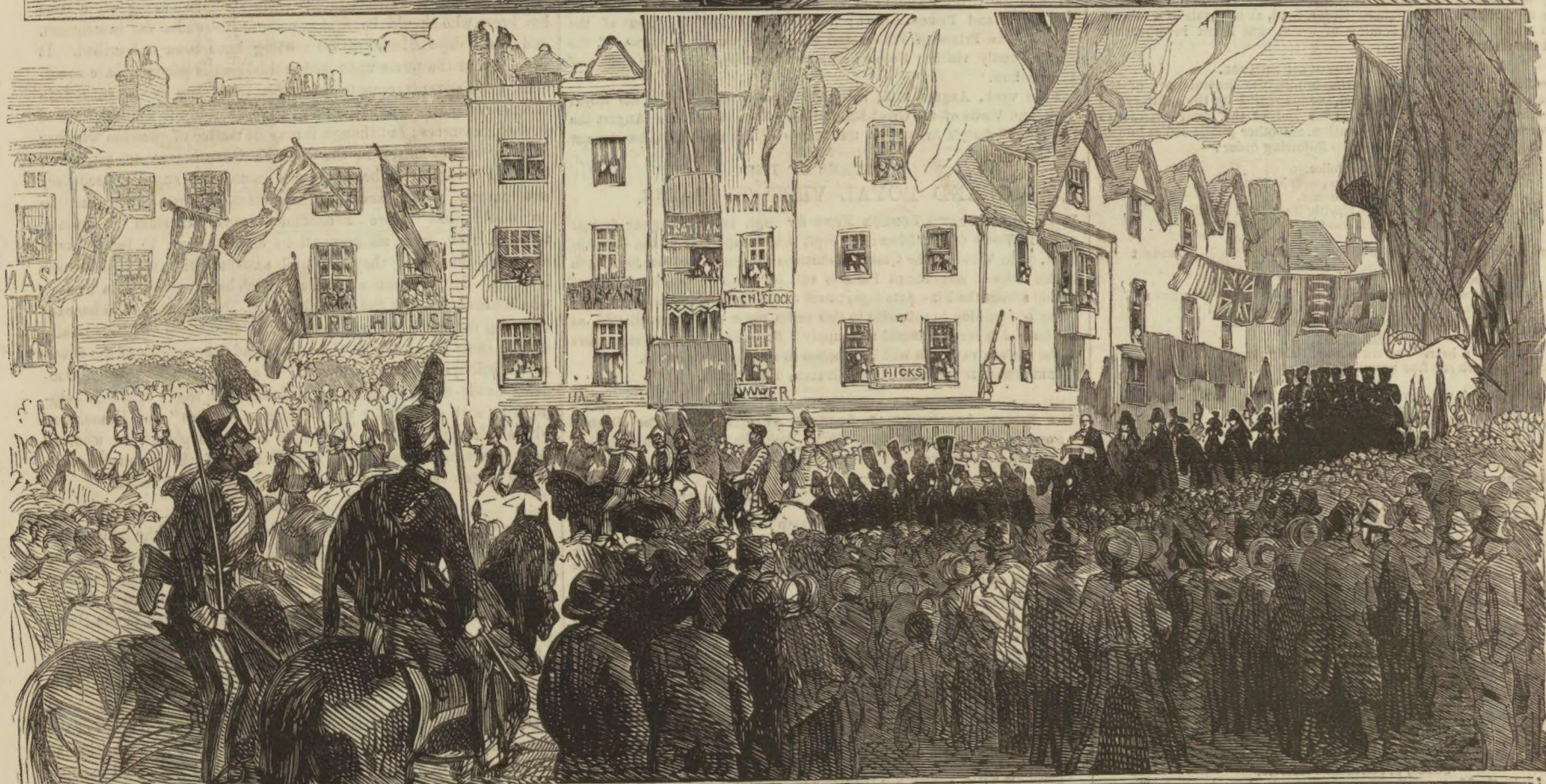
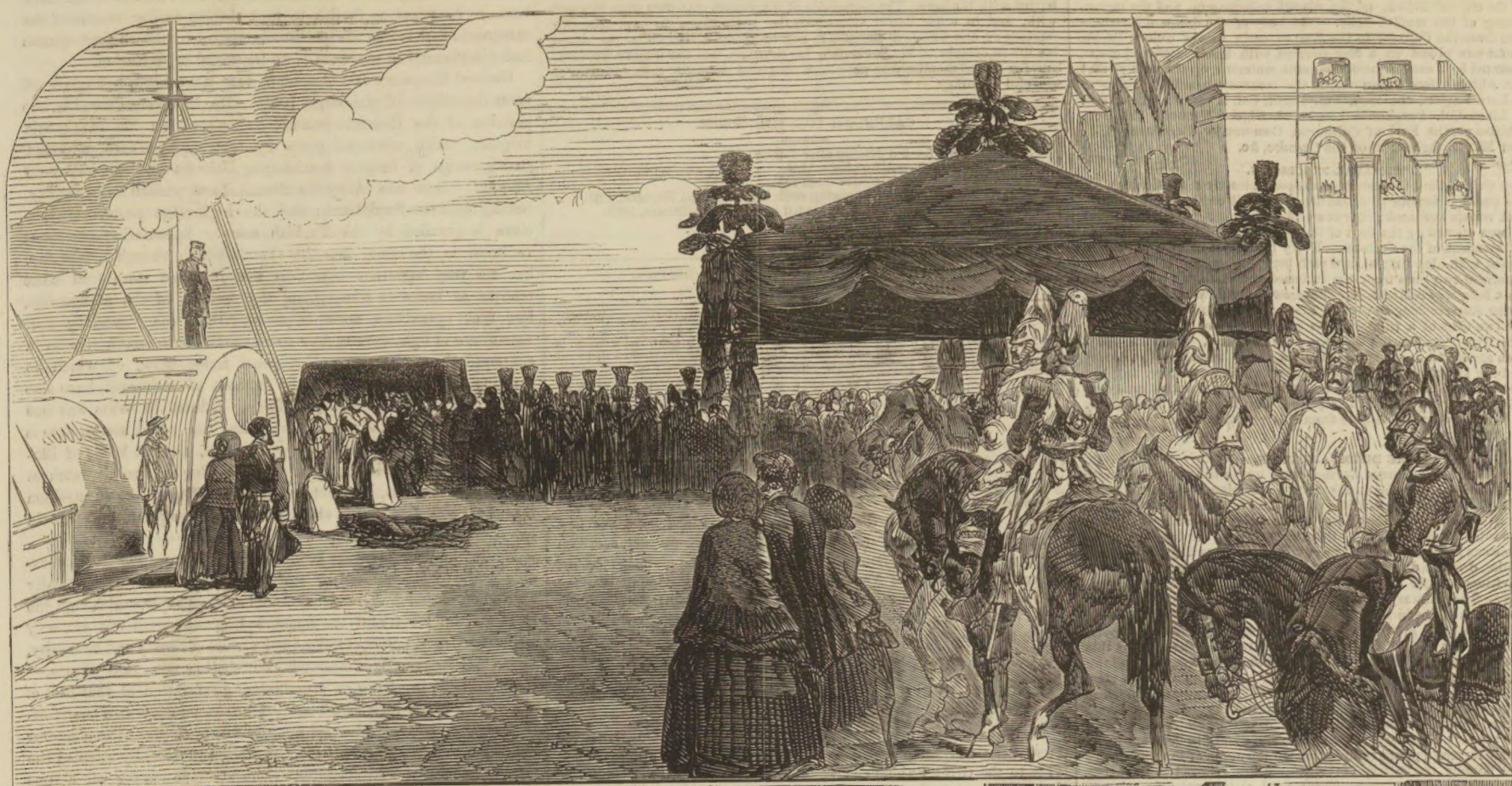


ARRIVAL OF "THE CARADOC" AT CUMBERLAND BASIN, CLIFTON.



THE WATER PROCESSION.—(SEE PAGE 134.)

FUNERAL OF THE LATE LORD RAGLAN.



FUNERAL OF THE LATE LORD RAGLAN.—THE LANDING.—THE PROCESSION.—THE LYING-IN-STATE.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

Every man who has had practical experience in trade, or who has carefully looked over the annals of bankruptcy, will acknowledge that there is much truth in this severe censure; and even now there are before the courts of justice two most prominent cases of firms, reputedly in the possession of colossal fortunes, who stand charged with fraud and theft, perpetrated under the deceitful guise of moneyed respectability.

Mr. Muntz challenges proof that any company has succeeded against an individual in his own trade; if no such proof could be afforded, it would add no strength to his argument. The principle of the Act is that the people are the best judges of their own interests, and should be free to invest their money as they please. If they make mistakes they must take the consequences of their own want of judgment and prudence. Mr. Muntz also insisted that there was no want of capital in the country. Why did he not define capital, and contrast it with legal tender? for of what avail is capital unless it can be commuted into the instruments of production and exchange? Now it is to enlarge the power of getting and keeping possession of those instruments by uniting small sums of money together in a common enterprise that the chief merit of limited liability resides; it will call out capital from a dormant into an active condition, it will prevent hoarding, restrain foolish investments in foreign loans, and impart vitality to all the minor processes of native industry. Political economists would do well to remember, what they are too apt to forget or overlook, the simple fact that every mouth is a consumer, and every hand a producer; and that there are no markets but those which are created by human wants and desires. It is not wisdom to leave it to the caprice of colossal capitalists whether the people shall be employed or left in idleness; they should be able to create work for themselves through their own co-operation; and this independence of action limited liability must facilitate.

Mr. Muntz was well supported by the millionaires. Some dozen of the moneyed aristocracy gave him an energetic support, and in hearty chorus exclaimed, "Great is Diana of the Ephesians!" The existing law had worked well for them; and though they were all free-traders in articles they did not themselves produce, each had a fondness for monopoly when their pockets were touched. This inconsistency—we might use a harsher term—received a merited castigation from Lord Palmerston. We quote his language with pleasure, and should rejoice at more frequent opportunities of recording his condemnation of narrow views and party spirit:—

I confess (said his Lordship) I am quite surprised that gentlemen who have been the strenuous and successful advocates of the principles of free-trade should now turn round, and try to defeat these bills which are based on those very principles. I will say in a few words that this contest lies between the few and the many. It is one of those instances in which, I won't say the prejudices, but in which the opinions of the few are to be set against the interests of the great bulk of the community. There is nothing, I am persuaded, that would tend more to the general advantages of the public than the setting free, as these bills will do, small capitals, that they may be turned to profitable employment. The present law prevents that being done. There is, consequently, a great quantity of small capital locked up, which, if these bills were passed might be employed for the benefit of those who possess them, and also for the advantage of the community at large. It is a question of free-trade against monopoly. I don't say it offensively, but that is the real fact. You may disguise it as you will, but it is a principle well understood by every man in the country, I can assure you; and I tell the House that I feel so strongly on this question that I will urge the House to go on day by day, and morning after morning, with these bills; and if it is attempted to talk the bills out, and to consume the time by long speeches, the country shall at least see with whom the fault rests, and who it is that would deprive the nation of that advantage which I contend these bills would afford, if passed.

This is plain speaking, and, better still, it is honest and truthful speaking. The House cheered the noble Lord loudly and frequently, and the dissentients only made their case worse by vociferating "No;" for every man of common sense and common honesty saw plainly that the opposition solely proceeded from moneyed capitalists. Lord Palmerston showed, on this occasion, that he was willing to obey public opinion; let him continue to do so on other subjects and his tenure of office will be permanent; he will accomplish more than this personal gratification—he will prevent Parliamentary Government from sinking into contempt, the inevitable fate that awaits it when the House of Commons manifests a want of sympathy with popular feelings.

We heartily give the Government every credit for making wise concessions when discussing the clauses of the bill in Committee. In the original draught it was contemplated to confine the benefits of limited liability to those undertakings which had "a capital stock of the nominal amount of not less than £20,000 divided into shares of a nominal value, not less than £25 each." This condition struck at the roots of the principle of the bill, and favoured that very monopoly of capitalists which Lord Palmerston had denounced. He, therefore, on the amendment of Lord Goderich to leave out the words above quoted, yielded the point after a brief discussion. It was further agreed to reduce the value of the shares from £25 to £10. To constitute a partnership with limited liability there must be at least twenty-five members. Insurance offices and banks are not within the scope of the Act. The former are able, under the existing law, to limit their liability; and bankers are not traders, but merely guardians of property committed to their safe keeping. The Partnership Amendment Bill, in consequence of the lateness of the Session, is postponed till next year.

THE COURT.

Her Majesty and the Royal family are in excellent health, and during the past week have availed themselves of the usual enjoyments of their marine residence.

On Saturday the Queen and Prince embarked in the Royal yacht, and cruised towards Spithead. In the course of the day his Serene Highness Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar arrived on a visit to her Majesty.

On Sunday the Queen and Prince, the Prince of Wales, and Prince Alfred, the Princess Royal, and Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, attended morning service at Whippingham Church. The Rev. George Prothero officiated.

On Monday her Majesty and the Prince Consort drove out in the vicinity of Osborne.

On Tuesday the Queen and Prince Albert, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal, and Prince Alfred, embarked in the *Fairy*, and proceeded to Portsmouth to attend the launch of the *Marborough*. After the Queen had christened the ship, her Majesty honoured Vice-Admiral Sir Thomas and Lady Cochrane with her company at luncheon. Before leaving Portsmouth the Queen visited the Crimean invalids now in the Military Hospital at Portsea.

On Wednesday her Majesty and the Prince Consort walked in the grounds of Osborne, and took driving exercise in the vicinity.

His Excellency Count de Persigny has, within the last few days, waited on Lady Raglan, to convey to her Ladyship, personally, the deep condolence of the Emperor and Empress of the French.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

APPOINTMENTS.—*Rectories:* The Rev. A. Russell to the united parishes of St. George, Botolph-lane, and St. Botolph by Billingsgate; Rev. R. Kelvert to Langley Burrell, near Chippenham; Rev. C. W. Davis to Breane, Somerset; the Rev. H. Bagnall to Goldsborough, Yorkshire. *Vicarages:* The Rev. H. Newland to St. Mary's, Westbourne, Sussex; Rev. R. J. F. Thomas to Yeovil-cum-Preston. *Incumbencies:* Rev. J. H. Newton to Cambo, near Morpeth; Rev. C. S. Trip to Christ Church, Nailsea, Bristol.

The Rev. G. Pope, Fellow of Sidney Sussex, Cambridge, has been appointed Professor of Mathematics at the Royal Military College, Sandhurst.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

MAJOR-GENERAL CORNWALL.

MAJOR-GENERAL WILLIAM HENRY CORNWALL, Assistant-Master of the Ceremonies to her Majesty, and late of the Coldstream Regiment of Foot Guards, died at his residence, in Cadogan-place, Chelsea, on the 21st ult., aged fifty-five years. The General was third and youngest son of John Cornwall, Esq., of Hendon, of Middlesex, by his wife, Susannah Hall, only daughter of Alan, First Lord Gardner; and was born in Grosvenor-place, London, 4th September, 1799. He was educated under the care of the late Rev. Edward Walde, of Iwer, Bucks, till he entered, in 1813, the Military College, Sandhurst. Shortly after the battle of Waterloo a Commission in the Coldstream Regiment of Foot Guards was given him by the Duke of Cambridge; but, the regiment having being reduced and Mr. Cornwall placed on half-pay, he was gazetted Esquire and Lieutenant in the same regiment by purchase the 5th of October, 1820. He became a Lieutenant-Colonel in 1832. In 1836 he was selected by William IV. to attend upon Prince George of Cambridge; and he fulfilled the duties of a difficult situation to the complete satisfaction of his Majesty and the late Duke of Cambridge, and to the oft-acknowledged advantage of the Prince. In subsequent years the Colonel accompanied Prince George in various distant tours, and also the Duchess of Cambridge and family in a tour through Italy, in 1840. He was from 1837 one of the Duke of Cambridge's Equerries; and in 1846 he held a similar post in the household of the Queen Dowager Adelaide, his wife being also appointed one of Queen Adelaide's bedchamber women. The Colonel and his wife accompanied her Majesty—to whom they were devotedly attached—to Madeira in the winter of 1847, and continued with her till her decease. In December, 1845, Colonel Cornwall was chosen by Queen Victoria to be her Majesty's Marshal; and, in January, 1847, her Assistant Master of the Ceremonies—which situation he retained to his decease. He was gazetted Colonel in 1846, and subsequently retired on half-pay of the 83rd Foot. In the Brevet of the 20th June, 1854, he attained the rank of Major-General.

Major-General Cornwall married, in 1841, Louisa Grace, second daughter of the late Lord Robert Kerr, fourth son of William John, fifth Marquis of Lothian, who survives him. He leaves no issue. His remains were interred on the 27th ult., in the family vault, at Hendon.

The Major-General was directly descended from the Cornwalls, Barons of Burford, county of Salop, whose unbroken pedigree traces up to Richard, Earl of Cornwall, King of the Romans A.D. 1271, brother of Henry III., and son of John, King of England. The surviving representatives of that family are John Cornwall, of Elstead, county of Surrey, Esq., Captain R.N.; and the Rev. Alan Gardner Cornwall, M.A., Rector of Newington Bagpath, and of Beverstone, both in the county of Gloucester, and a Chaplain in Ordinary to Queen Victoria.

THE HON. EDWARD FITZCLARENCE.

LIEUTENANT the Hon. EDWARD FITZCLARENCE, son of the late, and brother



of the present Earl of Munster, died on the 25th ult., from the effects of his wounds, at the English hospital at Constantinople, whither he had been conveyed from Balaklava. The gallant Lieutenant was serving as Aide-de-Camp to his Colonel, the lamented Yea, and with him took part in the unsuccessful attack on the Redan on the 18th June, and received some terrible hurts that eventually proved mortal. He had to undergo amputation of the left leg and the right hand. These operations he bore with a fortitude which seemed instinctive with him, but his constitution sunk under them. Lieut. FitzClarence was the fourth and youngest son of George, first Earl of Munster, by his wife Mary, daughter of George, Earl of Egremont, and was born on the 8th of July, 1837. He entered the 7th Regiment of the Line as an Ensign, in November, 1854, and, in January last, obtained his Lieutenancy. He accompanied, in the spring of this year, the depot of his regiment to the seat of war, and he had only been a few weeks before Sebastopol, when he obeyed with alacrity the summons that called him to assist in the attempt on the Redan, and thus has added his name to the fair roll of British noblesse who have, with such earnest valour and ready devotion, sacrificed their lives in the Crimea.

COLONEL BENT.

COLONEL WILLIAM HENRY BENT, late of the Royal Artillery, and on the retired list of that corps, was the fourth son of the Rev. George Bent, Rector of Jacobstowe and High-Bray, co. Devon, and the brother of the present John Bent, Esq., of Wexham Lodge, Bucks. William Henry Bent having entered the British Army early in life, went through a career of considerable service. He accompanied the expedition to Walcheren, and assisted at the bombardment of Flushing. He was actively employed during the campaigns from 1810 to 1813 in the Peninsula; and shared in the glories of Badajoz, Albuera, and Arroya de Molinos. He was in the retreat from Madrid into Portugal, and in numerous minor actions connected with the war. He was severely wounded at San Muncos. The gallant officer, who had been in the service close upon fifty years, married Charlotte, daughter of the late Lieutenant-General Samuel Rimington, Royal Invalid Artillery, by whom he had issue, six sons and four daughters. Four of the sons are in the British service; and the third daughter is married to Captain Travers, R.A. Colonel Bent died a few days since at Heavitree, near Exeter.

WILLIAM SELWYN, ESQ., Q.C.

WILLIAM SELWYN, Esq., of Richmond, Surrey, a learned and laborious lawyer, and the well-known author of Selwyn's "Nisi Prius," died on the 26th ult. at Tunbridge Wells, aged 81. He was educated at the University of Cambridge, and was first Chancellor of the University in St. John's, in 1797. He was called to the bar in 1807, and twenty years afterwards became a Queen's Counsel. His work, entitled "An Abridgment of the Law of Nisi Prius," has long been a standard book in the legal profession, and has gone through numerous editions, the latest of which is dedicated to Prince Albert, who shortly after becoming a resident in this country read constitutional history with Mr. Selwyn. Mr. Selwyn was for some time Recorder of Portsmouth. He married the daughter of R. T. Kynaston, Esq., and leaves issue. One of his sons is at the bar, and another is the Right Rev. George Augustus Selwyn, D.D., Bishop of New Zealand.

WILLS, PERSONALTY, AND BEQUESTS.—The will of the Right Honourable Lord Dudley Coutts Stuart, M.P., was proved in London under £80,000 personality. John Henry Vivian, Esq., of Singleton, Glamorganshire, £200,000 personality. Sir Charles Blois, Bart., £25,000. Admiral Sir Charles Ekins, G.C.B., £12,000. Robert Pratt, Esq., land agent, Norwich, £25,000. Lieutenant Wm. Walker Jordan, 34th Foot, Crimea, £8000. The Right Hon. Lady Caroline Scott, died intestate, personality, £35,000. Mr. John Heard, of Gravesend, has bequeathed to the Kent and Canterbury Hospital, £500; Licensed Victuallers' Asylum, £500; Gravesend and Milton Dispensary, £100.

SIR EDWARD BANKS, the builder of three of the noblest bridges in the world—Waterloo, Southwark, and London—began life as a common labourer, and worked as a navvy on the Merstham Railway, completed in 1805. He is buried at Chipstead churchyard, and his tomb bears his bust upon an arch of London-bridge, flanked with an arch of Southwark and Waterloo bridges.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

(Continued from page 131.)

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

The following bills were read a third time and passed, viz.:—Huddersfield Burial-ground Act Amendment Bill; Bills of Lading (No. 2) Bill; Turnpike Trusts Arrangements Bill; and the Sale of Spirits (Ireland) Bill. The Sale of Beer Bill, the Turkish Loan Bill, and several other Bills, were brought up from the Commons and read a first time.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

The House met at twelve o'clock.

Mr. STAFFORD called attention to a letter which appeared in the *Times* that morning, in answer to one which was published in that journal of the 5th of July last, relative to the treatment of our soldiers in the hospitals at Scutari, and impugning the accuracy of his statements in reference to the medical departments and the hospitals generally. He intimated his intention of bringing the matter more fully before the House next Tuesday.

LORD GEORGE PAGET'S PENSION.

On the order for going into Committee of Supply, Mr. DILLWYN called the attention of the House to a report that Lord George Paget had received a good-service pension of £100 per annum, with the view of inquiring into the truth of such report, and of ascertaining, if true, what the special services have been for which such pension has been awarded. He did not know anything about the matter further than what he had read in the public prints. The hon. gentleman, having adverted to the various incidents in the military career of the noble Lord, said he did not consider there were sufficient grounds for granting him a pension when there were so many who had pre-eminently distinguished themselves.

Mr. FEEL thought that no better choice could have been made—indeed, that under the circumstances no other choice could be made. The sums voted by the House of Commons admitted of five or six pensions being given away, and the Commander-in-Chief thought it but fair that the cavalry should share in those pensions. Lord George Paget was selected as being the senior regimental Colonel engaged. There were ten regimental Colonels on the day of the charge of Balaklava, and he was the senior. He led his regiment in a most gallant manner against the enemy, rallied them on the other side, and brought them back with the greatest credit. To have passed him over would have led to the inference that he was wanting in his duty, which would have been most unjust. After some conversation the subject dropped.

SUPPLY.—THE WAR.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved a vote of three millions for the purposes of the war, in accordance with his statement on the 8th April last.

After some remarks from Mr. WILLIAMS, the vote was agreed to. Mr. FEEL moved a supplemental vote for the Commissariat Service of the army in the Crimea. Basing his calculations upon the expenditure of May and June, he found that the expenditure of the year would be £3,700,000, of which £1,200,000 had been expended, leaving a sum of £2,500,000 to be voted. The expenses under this head had greatly increased. The Sardinian army had had to be provisioned, although the amount would hereafter be repaid. The Turkish Contingent under General Vivian had been provisioned, and now they would have to provision a considerable body of Foreign Legionaries who were not included in the former estimates. The hon. gentleman then proceeded to explain the details of the vote.

Mr. HENLEY said that these large supplementary estimates tended to show how utterly unprepared the Government had been to carry on the war.

Mr. WILLIAMS thought the country would be quite unprepared for this additional amount being required for the Commissariat service. He wished to see the army well provided for; and he could not help thinking that it had been most unjustifiably neglected by the Government.

After some remarks from Sir F. Baring, Colonel NORTH drew attention to the subject of the unroasted coffee issued to the troops, and to the conduct of Sir Charles Trevelyan with regard to it. He entered at considerable length into these and a variety of other subjects which came under the notice of the Sebastopol Committee.

Mr. WILSON defended Sir C. Trevelyan and the Government, insisting that as soon as it was ascertained that coffee roasted and ground would be more desirable than green, it had been sent out at once.

Colonel DUNNE thought the present land transport was not sufficient to carry on the war with efficiency, and that there was a great deficiency of forage and of huts and tents. He believed the Turkish Contingent would be of no possible use in the war.

Some observations having been offered by Mr. Percy, Mr. B. Moore, Lord W. Graham, Sir W. Jolliffe, and Mr. Stafford, the vote was agreed to.

The Chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again at six o'clock for the consideration of the Militia and Ordnance Estimates.

The Militia Ballots Suspension Bill was read a third time and passed. The Sale of Beer, &c., Bill was read a third time and passed.

The House adjourned at four o'clock.

At six o'clock the House resumed.

Mr. HEYWOOD gave notice that early next Session he should move for leave to bring in a bill to amend the law of marriage.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD, &c.

Mr. FELLATT asked Mr. Scholefield whether an opportunity would be given before the prorogation of Parliament for scientific witnesses to be heard by the Committee for inquiring into the adulteration of food, &c., so that both sides of the question might be before the public prior to the close of the Session?

Mr. SCHOLEFIELD said that both sides had already been heard. He did not know whether the Committee would be able to report this Session; if not, the members of the Committee would give the fullest attention to the subject next Session.

THE "MARLBOROUGH."

Sir C. WOOD (in reply to a question from an hon. member) said the *Marborough* had floated at high water, and had sustained no damage from her recent misadventure.

THE FOREIGN LEGION.

Lord PALMERSTON (in reply to Mr. M. Gibson) said that no violation of the German States had taken place in our efforts to raise the Foreign Legion. When a question of the legality of our proceedings was raised in America, Government, in order that such question might be waived, had discontinued enlisting.

A NEW PROJECTILE.

Mr. MONSELL (in reply to Mr. Roebuck) said that the new projectile invented by Mr. Britain had been lately under the consideration of the Ordnance department, and the experiments tried up to the present time had proved successful.

ORDNANCE ESTIMATES.

The House having gone into a Committee of Supply, Mr. MONSELL moved a vote of £70,000 to meet the expenses of the Ordnance department. The hon. gentleman briefly explained the improvements which had recently taken place in the Ordnance-office, and defended the principal one—namely, the creation of one central responsible head—on which those improvements were founded.

Mr. STAFFORD complained that sufficient information respecting the working of the new system had not been given to the House. He also expressed his opinion that, although some improvement had taken place since the abolition of the Board of Ordnance, dangerous anomalies still existed in the War Department.

A MONSTER ENGLISH SNAKE.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

COLCHESTER, August 1, 1855.

I apprehend that most of your readers have seen a statement going the round of the newspapers respecting an enormous snake which was found in this neighbourhood. We have heard so many apocryphal stories on the subject of snakes, from time to time, that the public may be excused for being somewhat incredulous. I, therefore, think it right to say that I went yesterday to see it, at Mr. Ambrose's, in this town, who has preserved it in excellent condition, and, with good taste. For some months reports have been circulated that such a monster was seen occasionally in the high woods, but they passed off unheeded. This snake was found dead under the bar of a gate, which had evidently fallen on it while it was passing under it. It measures nine feet three inches in length, and its largest circumference was fifteen inches. It is the *Natrix torquata*—the ringed or common snake—and is destitute of poison fangs. It has reached a size which far outstrips all that were ever seen before; at least, so far as I can learn from books. Fleming, in his "British Zoology," gives the usual length as from three to four feet; and he is supported by most authors. I once killed one in Oxfordshire four feet three inches long; and that is the largest I ever fell in with, in those chalky districts, where it is often seen. I trust that this Colchester snake will find a place in the Museum of the Zoological Society.

I am, &c., JAMES M. CHURCHILL,
Author of "Medical Botany and Vegetable Toxicology."

The marriage of Lord Muncaster with Lady Jane Grosvenor, daughter of the Marquis and Marchioness of Westminster, took place on Thursday last.

SKETCHES IN THE BALTIC.

THE FIRST SHOT FIRED AT CRONSTADT.

The event commemorated in this engraving took place on the 6th of July. The *Cette Escadre* (as called from being originally laden with paper) was formerly a corvette, of the same size as an ordinary canal-boat. It was fitted up by order of Commander Boyl, who, in the evening fired the range of a 32-pounder gun, which had been slung in a peculiar manner at an angle of 45 degrees, in one of the wood-boats captured a few days ago. The boat was moved across the stern of the flagship, and three or four shots fired, the fall of the first in the water was eagerly watched for, but it took so long a time before it fell that it was given up, but in a few seconds, calculations of astonishment burst forth as a small column of grey rose in the air at a distance of more than 400 yards, or over three miles; the shot took exactly thirty-one seconds for its flight. The boat was then towed a little nearer the shore, opposite one of the new mortar batteries, near the Governor's house, and a couple of shots fired, to ascertain if they were within range. Both shots went a long way over the battery, which immediately returned an ineffectual fire with mortar that would not carry the distance. These are, perhaps, the first shots from an enemy that ever sighted on the island of Cronstadt.

A week after, one of the officers of the despatch-boat sent from Cronstadt to receive a flag of truce and a despatch, and that one of the shot thrown from Commander Boyl's gun penetrated more than six feet into the earthwork of their battery. This proves that it would be quite possible to shell the city with guns fired in this peculiar manner, completely out of range of those on shore; but, unfortunately, there are no fumes for shells that will carry this immense distance: the longest time we have burnt only twenty seconds, whereas it requires one that will burn thirty-two seconds to carry it the distance Commander Boyl's gun throws it, so that it might not explode before it reaches its extreme flight.

DESTRUCTION OF RUSSIAN SHIPPING.

The second engraving represents an affair in which the *Harrier* and *Cuckoo* inflicted considerable damage on the shipping at Nystad. It appears that several boats belonging to these vessels were sent up among the rocks in the vicinity of the town to see what could be done. After proceeding about seven miles from the ship they came upon a large number of merchant-vessels of all classes, large enough for navigating the Gulf of Bothnia. Thirty of these they burned, and brought away one of 300 tons burthen—having been altogether about twenty hours absent.

Rear-Admiral Hon. R. S. Dundas, in a letter to the Secretary to the Admiralty, dated July 7, calls the particular attention of their Lordships to the active exertions of Captain Storey, of her Majesty's ship *Harrier*, which led a few days later to the destruction of a large amount of shipping discovered afterwards in another exchange near Nystad.

The following are extracts from Capt. Storey's report:—

The boats of this ship (the *Harrier*) destroyed forty-seven ships belonging to the enemy, varying from 700 tons to 200 tons, on the night of the 21st and 22nd inst.

On the first night the ships destroyed were one mile from the town of Nystad, and three miles from the shore, and were unable to bring our batteries, the *Victoria*, of about 400 tons, of with us.

During the night and following day we discovered 42 ships, the whole of which we either burnt or scuttled.

I have the greatest pleasure in being able to state that these proceedings were so successfully carried out without any casualty.

Owing to the distance we got away from the ship (one or seven miles) and the blowing weather, accompanied with rain, that came on during the morning, we were prevented from bringing my vessel on with us.

Thus, in two following nights and one day, we destroyed the whole of the Nystad shipping, probably upwards of 20,000 tons.

The most recent news from the Baltic is quite as successful as that from the Crimea. The united forces of the French and English amounted to 40 sail, comprising 10 steam line-of-battle ships, 2 steam frigates, 4 small cruisers, 4 mortar-vessels, and 14 gun-boats.

After a strict reconnaissance for a period exceeding three weeks of the north shore of Cronstadt, they weighed anchor at seven a.m. of the 14th inst. Numerous of an early movement, which had been prevalent for several days, were confirmed in the afternoon of the 14th by a general signal being made to prepare for sailing; and it was generally supposed that by far the greater portion of the fleet would proceed down the Gulf of Finland, a small squadron remaining of Cronstadt to watch the movements of the enemy.

But two hours had barely elapsed after the anchors had been weighed on the morning of the 14th before the three Admirals, Dundas, Penard, and Seymour, parted company in their respective ships, the *Duke of Wellington*, the *Torville*, and the *Zemach*, with the *Andromeda* and *Maria* in attendance, en route for Nystad. The *Beyrute* had been sent in advance at four a.m., with the four mortar-vessels, for the same destination. The remainder of the Allied squadron, having been placed under the orders of Rear-Admiral Baynes, immediately after the departure of the three senior flag-officers, anchored about four miles N.W. by W. of Tolboskian Lighthouse, where they were to remain until further orders.

It was understood that the separation of the three Admirals from the main bulk of the fleet would be merely temporary, and that it had occurred in consequence of Rear-Admiral Penard having conceived a plan for an attack on Revel, the practicability of which Rear-Admirals Dundas and Seymour had gone to ascertain by personal observation. If the result were so satisfactory as to justify the bombardment of that port, it was to be made by the entire fleet, with the exception of such portion thereof as might be necessary to watch the proceedings of the Russians at Cronstadt, and other places in the Gulf of Finland.

On the 11th ult. the Commander-in-Chief, accompanied by Admiral Penard, Admiral Seymour, and Commodore the Hon. F. P. Polburn, proceeded in the *Maria* to reconnoitre Sveaborg and Hangö; they were also attended by four gun-boats and a French corvette. When about 1000 yards from the batteries several infernal machines were exploded by means of galvanic wires connecting them with the shore; but they seem more useless than those which exploded by being struck, for it is next to an impossibility for any one on shore to ascertain by which angles, or by other means, when a ship is so exactly over one of the machines that the explosion would damage her; this was proved by the experience of the 10th, for none exploded nearer than fifty or seventy yards of the ships. To be effective the machine should touch the ship's bottom, for if it exploded with two feet distance between, the shock would be diffused over such a large surface as to be harmless. Two line-of-battle ships have been sunk in the western channel. The *Amphion* saw them go down. One hoisted every at the south, and remains on her side; the other has her keelwater just above the water. Only two ships and a few small vessels could be seen in the harbour, but the crest of every hill and island showed new batteries with cannon. No less than seventeen new batteries and earth-works have been erected since we pointed out their weak places last year. Having satisfied themselves, the Admirals returned to the fleet about six p.m.

On the 14th ult. the *Maria*, with the Commander-in-Chief, and a French steamer with Admiral Penard, accompanied by two gun-boats, proceeded to reconnoitre Revel, and returned in the evening. Revel is an exceedingly good place, and all the forts and batteries are on the main land, running along the water's edge for two or three miles; while nature has assisted to strengthen the place by making the only channel to run within range of every gun. Altogether they must shoot 400 guns.

On the 20th ult. a successful attack was made on a Russian fort at Frederikshamn, a fortress situated on the western coast of the Gulf of Finland, midway between Wiborg and Hangö. This expedition was commanded by Captain Veltman, of the *Argonaut*, an officer who has gained for himself a well-merited reputation, on account of his intrepidity and cool bearing, added to the dexterity with which he conducts his ships scullion through the most intricate and difficult passages. The particulars of the affair are as follows:—The *Argonaut*, *Mogensen*, *Canal*, and gun-boat *Boley*, having joined company at Hangö, proceeded on the 20th to Frederikshamn, of which place they anchored the same evening. Captain Vanlittet then proceeded in the *Mogensen's* cutter to wind, and approached to within 1600 yards of a six-gun fort, which opened fire upon him with a couple of well-directed guns, without, however, doing any harm. The next morning, the *Mogensen* leading, with the *Argonaut*, *Canal*, and *Boley*, got into position at about 1000 yards distance, and commenced the attack upon the fort. The enemy returned the fire of our ships with batteries for the space of an hour and a half, but were at length compelled to abandon the position, all the guns being disabled, and the fort itself terribly wrecked about. No landing was attempted, Captain Veltman not thinking it judicious to do so, as a great number of troops were plainly to be seen, drawn up behind embankments. Both the *Argonaut* and *Mogensen* were struck several times, and the rigging of the latter vessel was much damaged. On one side or one was killed. The *Boley* had two men severely wounded, and one man belonging to the *Argonaut* was slightly injured.

It is said that the earthwork battery at Frederikshamn was but lately erected by the Emperor's orders. He went there on his way to Hangö, after a short time back, and found the place without soldiers or batteries. He immediately ordered 2000 of the former to be stationed there, and the latter to be built. The town was safe from harm until this happened, but a few party in ruins. As the ships approached the town several lodges were quietly seated on the grass watching them, but the first knowledge from the fort scattered them away. The enemy's small boats have been very great, numbers were seen carried away on stretchers; one wounded officer was seen to fall from a small boat, at a two by a shell. It was not the intention to burn the town; but some stray rockets set fire to some houses in the suburbs which communicated with a part of the town; but it did not reach the museum, or the church with its beautiful spire.



THE FIRST SHOT PLANTED IN CRONSTADT.—SKETCHED BY J. W. CARMICHAEL.



BOATS OF "THE HARRIER" AND "CUCKOO" DESTROYING RUSSIAN SHIPPING AT NYSTAD.

THE GOODWOOD RACE PLATE.

THE Cup Prizes of Goodwood—symbols of those equine triumphs which have sealed the hopes and misgivings of sporting thousands—have this year been represented in such results of the silversmith's art as afford alike most favourable subjects for our artist, and fairest grounds for our praise. From these stirring events of the turf—in which the many find no interest beyond that which is engendered by pecuniary hazard—has mainly arisen that progress of art which in the more ambitious efforts of the silversmith are now displayed.

That, under a more perfect appreciation on the part of patrons, the arts generally would produce still nobler results cannot be doubted; and, in respect to Racing Plate, we are well aware how frequently the tender subtleties of light and shade, in which the artist finds so much delight, are sacrificed to a vulgar appetite and common-place admiration for the dazzle and glitter that silver can be made to yield. Dinner-plates and dish-covers may be polished up to mirror-like lustre, and no great harm will follow. But the art of Cellini and Ghiberti ignores the tricks of "burnish," "frosting," and "scrat.h-brush," and can only be manifested under the sobering influence of oxidation. We have heard that sporting gentlemen, in bemoaning the absence of spangling refulgence in cups that have been oxidised, have suggested their resemblance to pewter

or lead. These critics must remember that it is the art that ennobles the metal, not the metal the art; and further, that even pewter or lead, upon which has been impressed the stamp of genius, is beyond comparison, more worth the racing for than any tawdry work in silver, whose true worth is at per ounce.

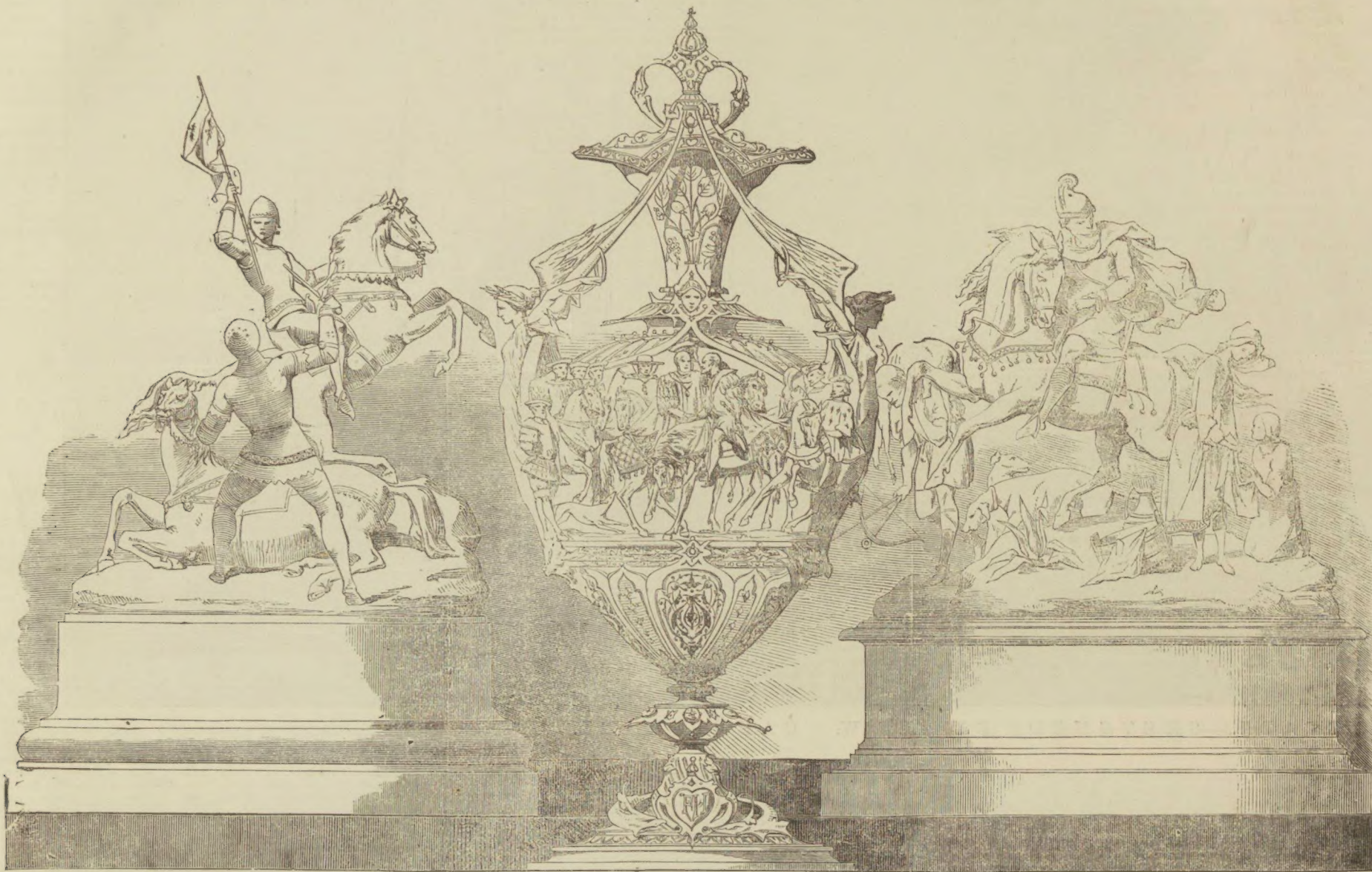
The Goodwood Prize Plate—comprising, in this instance, a vase and two historical groups—has emanated from the well-known establishments of Messrs. Hancock, Garrard, and Hunt and Roskell, respectively. The vase—executed by Mr. Hancock, of Bruton-street, from the designs and model of Mr. H. H. Armstead, a clever young artist connected with the establishment—combines the utmost mastery and piquancy of detail, with exceeding simplicity and dignity of form. Its proportions are very noble, and the subjects in basso-relievo which adorn its sides, while well suited to a treatment in metal, happily illustrate the good-will between France and England—the subject of the entire work being that of the Field of the Cloth of Gold. On one side is represented the meeting between Henry VIII. and Francis I. between Guisnes and Ardres. The figures of Wolsey, the French nobles, and the courtly retinue have been introduced in this subject in the most ingenious manner, and with great artistic effect. The subject on the other side of the vase represents Francis victorious in the lists. The handles are partly formed of winged figures of Victory, by which are symbolised the successes which attended Henry and Francis in their holding the lists against all comers; and the details throughout have symbolical reference, supporting the gene-

ral character of the work. The metal has been oxidised; and altogether the production reflects the highest credit upon both artist and manufacturer. This plate has been "placed," as the *Goodwood Cup*.

The subject selected by Messrs. Hunt and Roskell, of Bond-street, is one closely connected with our early history. In their spirited group—in our Engraving to the right of the vase—is represented the well-known incident of Robert of Normandy meeting, on his return from the chase, with a beautiful country girl, who, at the time, was engaged with her companions in washing clothes at a brook. She is represented in the group as being timidly conscious of observation, while Robert, mounted on a prancing charger, is wrapt in admiration of her loveliness. They were destined to become the parents of William the Conqueror. This work is likewise from the design of Mr. H. H. Armstead, and its execution thoroughly justifies the high reputation of Messrs. Hunt and Roskell. It has been awarded as the *Steward's Cup*.

Messrs. Garrard, of the Haymarket, have produced the third group, illustrating the personal encounter between Sir Henry Percy (Hotspur) and the Earl of Douglas. The incident took place near Newcastle, A.D., 1388. Mr. Cotterill, by whom the group was designed and modelled, has represented the crowning triumph of Douglas in the capture of Hotspur. The work is animated with much spirit and vigour, and is worthy both of Mr. Cotterill and the firm to which he is attached. This prize has been awarded as the *Chesterfield Cup*.

Altogether these three Prizes must be considered of the first order.



CHESTERFIELD CUP.

GOODWOOD CUP.

STEWARDS' CUP.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

Goodwood once over, and the racing year gets rapidly into its "autumnal slope," and visions of the St. Leger and the Cesarewitch begin to rise in the distance. August is especially prolific in race-meetings, no less than nine of which are set down for next week. Ripon has its pleasant little St. Wilfred gathering on Monday and Tuesday, and the handicap of that ilk is run off on the former of these days. North Staffordshire is fixed for Tuesday and Wednesday; Leith Subscription, Bridgwater, Burton-on-Trent, and Naring, for Tuesday; and Airdrie for Thursday. The great meeting of the week is Brighton, which claims Wednesday and Thursday for its "legitimate" and Friday for its Club racing. Its Biennial Stakes on Wednesday has a strong entry of bad horses; and West Langton, Cheshunt, Ariel, and Bucolic are among the twenty-nine entries for the Two-year-old Biennial on Thursday. The Champagne Stakes on that day has a rare list of speedy animals; among which are Nabob, Dervish, Jack Sheppard, Oulton, Andover (said to be lame), Epaminondas, Lord of the Isles, Scherz, Orinoco, Knight of St. George, and Ratanplan,—and the distance is only one mile.

De Clare is scratched for all his engagements this year; so John Scott must fall back on Bonnie Morn and the Marchioness for the St. Leger. St. Hubert's Goodwood running has settled him, but Rotherham is not unlikely to find friends before the great Doncaster day.

We hear that Bird-in-Hand will not show again before the Champagne Stakes at Doncaster, for which, judging from the Goodwood running, he will have a strong lot of winners to meet. The Hawley jacket has once more come to the fore with Sister to Aphrodite, who left the high-priced Voivode struggling hopelessly in her rear. The Ham Stakes was a great surprise, as Fly-by-Night was behind Polmoodie, whom he beat so cleverly at Ascot; while Mary Copp (who is another of Flying Dutchman's stock) came in three lengths ahead of the latter. This filly was parted with by Lord Eglinton when he threw up his stud so suddenly last month. Oddly enough, it is only another illustration of the truth that, whenever any racing man parts with his stud, there is sure to be some "great unknown" in it. Surplice was in Lord George Bentinck's, Wild Dayrell in the Duke of Richmond's, Kingston in General Peel's, and Scythian in General Anson's, when they sold off; while Lord Exeter was within an ace of selling his with Stockwell in it in the spring of 1852. The Bold Buccleuch is to come to the hammer at Tattersall's on Monday, and it is said that Sir George Brown has had 1100 guineas bid him in vain for the grey hunter which carried him so splendidly "up to the Russian gun" at the Alma. Gossip has it that the bid was from some English "Barnum;" but we cannot vouch for this part of the story. The show of horses of all classes at the recent Royal Agricultural Meeting at Carlisle was very excellent, and the Cumbrians took fully their share of the prizes. The blood-horse flat in this case confirmed that of the local Agricultural Show judges (1854) as to the merits of Ravenhill and British Yeoman, who were again first and second; while St. Bennett, The Era, The Cure, Emerystone, Larrison, Cyclops, Witton, Turnus, Vulcan, Burndale, and Colsterdale, were the defeated ones, where Melbourne and Lanercost have been found before them.

The yachtsmen are making the most of their time. On Monday we have the Greenwich Annual, and the St. Mary's, Rotherhithe, Regattas. Tuesday is apportioned to the Great Grimby Regatta, and the "Leander-club Coat, Badge, and Freedom for Apprentices," from Putney to Ham-mer-smith. The Royal Southern Yacht-club Regatta stands for Tuesday and

Wednesday; the Manchester and Salford Regatta for Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday; the Great Marlow Regatta for Thursday, and the final heat for its Silver Challenge Sculls on Friday; while the Clyde Regatta-club (Glasgow) inaugurates its season with a regatta on Saturday.

The Marylebone Club and Ground are beginning to go afield, and on Monday they play a return match with the county of Sussex, at Hors-ham, and on Thursday with the Braxted-park Club, in their own park. Kennington Oval will also be enlivened on Wednesday by a return match between the West Wickham and Surrey Clubs. "All England" will appear at Bristol on Monday, and Cardiff on Thursday; and the "United All England" will play the "North v. South" match at Tun-bridge, on the same day. The latter corps have no match on Monday, as so many of their members will be engaged on the side of Marylebone at Horsham.

Owing to the 12th of August falling on a Sunday, the grouse will have a day's respite. The accounts of them are still as unsatisfactory as those of the black game are good; and we observe the names of Lord John Russell and Mr. Padwick among those sportsmen who have taken moors.

GOODWOOD RACES.—TUESDAY.

Craven Stakes.—Brother to Grey Tommy, 1. Winkfield, 2. Lavant Stakes.—Sister to Aphrodite, 1. Pyrrha, 2. Sweepstakes of 300 sovs. each.—Honeysuckle, 1. Baalbec, 2. Stewards' Cup.—Clotilde, 1. Lord Albemarle, 2. Gratwicke Stakes.—Cavalier, 1. Dirk Hatteraick, 2. Ham Stakes.—Mary Copp, 1. Polmoodie, 2. Fifty Pounds.—Flageolet, 1. Rosaline, 2.

WEDNESDAY.

Sweepstakes of 10 sovs. each.—Sugarcane, 1. Overreach, 2. Sweepstakes of 300 sovs. each.—Paletot, 1. Hazel, 2. Handicap Plate.—Comfort, 1. Flacrow, 2. Goodwood Stakes.—Quince, 1. Hervine, 2. Drawingroom Stakes.—Oulton, 1. Doctor Cooke, 2. First year of the Fifth Great North and South of England Biennial Stakes.—Mary Copp, 1. Rogerthorpe, 2. Sweepstakes of 300 sovs.—Treacher, 1. Besika, 2. The Anglesea Plate.—Robgill, 1. Georgy, 2.

THURSDAY.

Fourth Memorial Stakes.—Corcebus, 1. Pagnator, 2. Molecomb Stakes.—Enchanter, 1. Spindle, 2. Goodwood Cup.—Baronino, 1. Oulton, 2. Rataplan, 3. Sussex Stakes.—Bezonian, 1. Sunshine, 2. Third Memorial Stakes.—Scythian walked over. Fifth Memorial.—Henrietta colt, 1. Oltenitza, 2. Racing Stakes.—Pagnator, 1. Claret, 2.

DOGGETT'S COAT AND BADGE.—The interesting contest for the coat and silver badge, the gift arising from a legacy left by Mr. Doggett for the purposes of encouraging the apprentices of watermen, and also to commemorate the accession of the House of Brunswick, took place on Wednesday. The conditions of the wager are that it shall be rowed by six watermen's apprentices, duly qualified and selected by ballot for choice out of young watermen apprentices, at Fishmongers'-hall. The distance to be rowed is from the Old Swan at London-bridge to the Old Swan at Chelsea, against tide. The following were the competitors:—William Ling, Tower-stairs; Henry James White, Mill-stairs, Bermondsey; William John Walliner, Tower-stairs; Thomas Adcock, St. George's-stairs, Horselydown; Thomas Fitzgerald, King James's-stairs, Wapping; and John Osman, Horselydown-stairs. The men took up their stations at half-past four; but it was nearly a quarter to five before a clear start was

effected. The race from London-bridge to Westminster was a very exciting one; the men to Blackfriars-bridge being nearly stem on, without either having any decided advantage. White, of Millwall-stairs (white), gradually drew away, and succeeded in maintaining his position until they arrived at Chelsea. White coming in first; William Ling, of the Tower-stairs, second; and W. Wallinger, of the same stairs, third.

BIRMINGHAM MUSICAL FESTIVAL.—This celebrated triennial music meeting commences on the 28th of next month. The selections for the morning and evening performances speak highly for the judgment and taste of the committee, and leave no doubt but that this will be one of the most brilliant meetings ever held. The great treat for amateurs will be the performance of Mr. Costa's new oratorio, called "Eli," which he has composed expressly for this festival. Mr. Costa has certainly been felicitous in the selection of his subject; it is from the first four chapters of the First Book of Samuel. The evening selections are of as attractive a character as could be wished. To name such composers as Mendelssohn, Weber, Rossini, Anber, and Macfarren, is in itself a guarantee for the character of the concerted music. On Thursday selections from the "Etoile du Nord" will be given; and it is expected that the illustrious Meyerbeer himself will grace the festival by a visit. A composition of Prince Albert's forms part of the programme for the same evening. The list of vocalists embraces the very cream of the profession; and, with a single exception, includes all the great names known to fame in the profession in this country. Madame Rudersdorf and Mlle. Bosio are the novelties of the season. In addition to these we have old favourites—Grisi, Mme. Castellan, Mme. Viardot Garcia, and Miss Dolby. There is, as we have said, one name wanting—we refer to Madame Clara Novello; and we regret, for the sake of the lady herself, that she is not of this noble band. The committee, fully appreciating her artistic powers, sought her co-operation; but the liberal terms offered (the same as in 1852) did not meet Madame Novello's views. There are on this occasion no less than four tenors—Mario and Sims Reeves, Signor Gardoni, and Herr Reichardt; both the last occupying a position of eminence in the musical world. Signor Lablache, Herr Fornes, and Mr. Weiss complete a list which has never been surpassed.

THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO FRANCE.—A letter from Boulogne says:—"The Empress will accompany the Emperor in his visit here to receive Queen Victoria. The four fine divisions of infantry which now occupy the camps of the North will march to this place on the occasion, and be reviewed by the Emperor, the Empress, Queen Victoria, and Prince Albert. Two or three regiments of cavalry are also said to be on their march to the same point. It is said that the illustrious visitors will remain here four-and-twenty hours."

THE BEER BILL COMMITTEE.—The second report of the Beer Bill Committee is published. The Committee met eight times. Mr. Cobbett moved a resolution to the effect that, instead of hearing further evidence, the Chairman be instructed to prepare a report. This was unanimously agreed to, and at the next meeting Sir W. Jelf proposed the report, the adoption of which, after some amendments, Mr. Cobbett moved. To this motion Sir John Pakington moved an amendment, stating that the committee had not yet received sufficient evidence as to the effect produced by the Act of 1854 to justify a report to the House. On a division Sir John Pakington alone supported it, the remaining eleven members present negatived it, and voted the report which was subsequently made to the House.

NEW NATIONAL SCHOOL, HOOK NORTON, OXON.—On Friday (last week) the corner-stone of this school was laid by Miss Davis, daughter of Samuel Davis, Esq., of Swinford Park. The building will comprise a school-room for boys and girls, 36 feet by 16½ feet, a class-room, and a room which, together with the class-room, will form a boys' school on Sundays, when the usually mixed school-room will be appropriated to girls alone. A mistress's house and the necessary offices complete the group, which is of a pleasing character. The village is much indebted to Miss Davis for her bounty, as she not only gave the site, but contributed more than two-thirds of the amount of the builder's contract. The architect is Mr. E. G. Bruton, of Oxford.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS

TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, AUGUST 2.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barom. at 9 A.M.	Thermometer.		Mean Temperature of Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Rain in Inches.
		Highest.	Lowest.					
July 27	29.772	72.7	54.4	60.3	-1.8	95	S.W.	0.28
" 28	29.867	70.3	54.5	61.4	-0.8	87	S.W.	0.04
" 29	29.896	75.4	52.2	60.8	-1.4	90	W.S.W.	0.00
" 30	29.843	74.8	55.2	63.7	+1.5	90	W.N.W.	0.00
" 31	29.721	69.2	55.8	60.8	-1.4	96	W.	0.34
Aug. 1	29.848	72.0	49.2	61.0	-1.2	82	S.W.	0.00
" 2	29.796	73.6	55.7	63.9	+1.7	84	S.W.	0.02

Note.—The sign — denotes below the average and the sign + above the average. The numbers in the seventh column are calculated on the supposition that the saturation of the air is represented by 100.

The reading of the barometer has varied but little during the week, the highest reading being 29.90 in., on the 29th; and the lowest, 29.71 in., on the 31st. The mean for the week, at the height of eighty-two feet above the level of the sea, was 29.81 inches.

The mean temperature of the week was 61.7°—being 0.5° below the average.

The range of temperature during the week was 26.2°.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 18.6°.

Rain fell during the week to the depth of nearly seven-tenths of an inch.

The weather throughout the week was changeable.

For the month of July the mean reading of the barometer, at the level of the sea, was 29.927 inches. The highest reading of the thermometer by day was 78.7° on the 13th; and the lowest by night was 42.2°; the range of temperature during the month was therefore 36.5°. The mean of all the highest readings by day was 73.3°, and of all the lowest by night was 53.4°; the mean daily range of temperature during the month was therefore 19.9°. The mean temperature of the month was 61.6°, being 0.4° below the average value. The mean temperature of evaporation for the month was 59.0°. The mean temperature of the dew point was 57.9°. The mean degree of humidity was 88° (complete saturation being represented by 100). And the fall of rain for the month was 6 inches.

Lewisham, 3rd August, 1855. JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—During the week ending last Saturday, the births of 726 boys and 677 girls were registered within the metropolitan districts. The number of deaths was 1036: of these, 576 were males, and 460 were females.

THE CAUSE OF POLAND.—The Council of the Literary Association of the Friends of Poland advertised "a meeting in favour of the employment of a Polish Legion as the most effectual auxiliary for carrying on the war, and the restoration of Poland as the only means of securing a durable peace," to be held on Wednesday evening at St. Martin's-hall, Long-acre—General Sir De Lacy Evans, M.P., in the chair. It was also stated in the circular convening the meeting that the cause of Poland would be "supported by the Marquis of Breadalbane, the Earl of Shaftesbury, the Earl of Harrington, the Earl of Yarborough, Viscount Ebrington, M.P., Sir John Villiers Shelley, Bart., M.P., Mr. Arthur Otway, M.P., Captain Townshend, R.N., M.P., Captain Scobell, R.N., M.P., William Tite, M.P., Mr. A. H. Layard, M.P., and many other members of Parliament." Long before the hour for holding the meeting (half-past seven o'clock) a large number of persons besieged the doors of the building, when it was intimated by the police that the meeting would not be held. A placard, of which the following is a copy, was also posted on the door:—"Poland.—In consequence of the sudden indisposition of General Sir De Lacy Evans, the meeting intended to be held this evening on the subject of the restoration of Poland is unavoidably postponed for a few days." This notification appeared to occasion some disappointment among the crowd, many of whom hinted that the hon. and gallant gentleman's indisposition, however much it was to be deplored, was scarcely a sufficient reason for postponing the restoration of one kingdom, and the adoption of the only means of securing the peace of another.

CHARING-CROSS HOSPITAL, WEST STRAND.—At the annual general meeting of the governors of this hospital, on Tuesday last—Charles Few, Esq., in the chair—a report of the operations of the hospital for the past year showed that there had been admitted for relief 1133 in-patients and 14,875 out-patients, including 3288 cases of accident and dangerous emergency, at a cost of £2685 18s. 11d.; these, with the cases recorded in former years, comprised a total of 215,724 sick and disabled poor who had been partakers of the benefits of the charity since 1834, and the greater part of whom had been freely admitted without any recommendation, and restored to the blessings of health and to their occupations and families.

ALARMING BALLOON ACCIDENT.—On Monday evening a large number of persons assembled at the Adam and Eve Gardens, Old St. Pancras-road, near the Great Northern Railway Station, King's-cross, to witness the ascent of Mons. Gardoni in a newly-constructed balloon, to which he had given the name of "Red, White, and Blue." About eight o'clock the aeronaut took his seat in the car, and the balloon was then released, but had not ascended a few feet when it came into contact with a newly-erected orchestra in the gardens, which caused Mons. Gardoni to be thrown from his seat in the car. By much struggling he caught hold of the wicker-work, and hung suspended over its side. The balloon continued to ascend, till at length, when over St. Giles's Cemetery, the aeronaut let go his hold, and, falling into the cemetery, his head came in contact with a monument. The clergyman residing at the burial-ground at once ran to the assistance of the unfortunate man, and having sent for a surgeon, it was discovered that he had received several severe contusions on the head, from which, however, no immediate danger is apprehended. The moment the aeronaut dropped from the balloon, it darted upwards with great rapidity, and was shortly lost to view; and up to Wednesday no tidings had been obtained of its resting-place.

PRESERVATION OF LIFE FROM SHIPWRECK.—On Thursday a meeting of the Royal National Life-boat Institution was held at the society's house, John-street, Adelphi; Captain Lambert Perrot in the chair. The silver medal of the institution was voted to Dr. D. F. S. Cahill, in testimony of his gallant and highly-meritorious conduct in going off in a small steamer through a heavy sea, on Berwick-bar, to the rescue of two persons whose boat was observed to be in a perilous situation, on Sunday, the 17th June last. Owing to the gale which had prevailed on the previous day a high sea was rolling in shore when the boat was observed with her devoted crew rapidly approaching some dangerous shoals, where, had she fetched them, she would undoubtedly have been swamped, and her crew consigned to a watery grave. In this great extremity Dr. Cahill prevailed on the crew of a steam-tug, and two other men, to accompany him in the steamer to render assistance to the unhappy persons. A reward of £1 10s. was also granted to three coast-guard-men of St. Alban's-head Station, in consideration of their prompt and laudable conduct in putting off in a small punt, to the rescue of two men who were out fishing, and whose boat, by a heavy wind, was capsized. Neither of them could swim. They were observed to be holding on to their boat in an exhausted state, and would assuredly have been drowned but for the timely assistance of the coast-guard-men. It is a remarkable fact that hardly any of our fishing population can swim, and hence this reason, to some extent, that so many of them, while pursuing their dangerous occupations, are drowned. Might not something be done by influential residents of our sea-coasts to remedy an evil which often produces such sad results? The establishment of swimming-schools in our fishing-villages would ultimately be, probably, only second in importance to the success which has attended the foundation of Sailors' Homes in seaport towns. It was also reported that the institution had life-boats ready to be sent to Lytham, Hauxley, and Fishguard.

STATE OF THE SERPENTINE AND THE LAKE IN ST. JAMES'S-PARK. At a special court of the Metropolitan Commission of Sewers, on Tuesday, a communication was read from the Board of Works on the subject of improving the state of these waters. It appears that two branches of the Ranelagh sewer, running respectively from Froggnall, near Hampstead, and from Kensal New Town, unite in one stream a little north of the Harrow-road, and pass through a sewer of 16 ft. 6 in. by 8 ft. 6 in., from Gloucester-terrace to the head of the Serpentine, near the Bayswater-road. At this point the sewer decreases to 6 ft. by 4 ft., and when the sewage rises four feet above the bottom of the drain the overflow is discharged into the Serpentine, causing the pollution of the water. Many thousand houses empty their filth into the sewer, and the great cemetery at Kensal-green has its discharge into it. A new cemetery, also, is about to be opened at Kilburn, the outlet for which will be the sewer in question, so that, in addition to the filth discharged into the Serpentine from thousands of houses, the water impregnated with the decomposition of hundreds of thousands of human bodies must find its way to the ornamental waters of Kensington-gardens and Hyde-park. The communication to the commission stated that Sir Benjamin Hall was desirous to cleanse these waters during the autumn, and to prevent a recurrence of the pollution, by turning the sewage into a main sewer; and he wished to be informed in what manner and in what length of time the whole of the drainage which at present comes down to the Bayswater-road could be passed into some of the great sewers having their discharge at a lower level; also whether there were any engineering difficulties in the way of such an object. With regard to the ornamental water in St. James's-park, Sir Benjamin believed that, before the lake could be drained off, a new sewer must be made at a lower level than the existing drain, which runs under the parade on the west front of the Horse Guards. On the motion of Sir John Shelley it was resolved that Mr. Bazalgette, the chief engineer to the commission, be instructed to attend the Board of Works on the subject alluded to.

CITY-ROAD SUNDAY AND INFANT SCHOOLS.—At last Common Council meeting, Deputy Dakin presented a petition signed by the treasurer and secretaries of the City-road Chapel Sunday, Day, and Infant Schools, for a grant towards the erection of a new infant school and class room. The petition was referred to the Coal and Corn Finance Committee.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

The great success which has attended the new French Loan of £30,000,000—though no doubts were ever entertained but that the whole amount would be easily raised—has been the grand topic of conversation in City circles. According to the official statement, published in the *Moniteur*, the total subscriptions represent no less than £144,000,000 sterling. The foreign subscriptions alone are £24,000,000. Those for 50 francs of *rente* and under amount to £9,200,000. This startling announcement proves that for a considerable period vast sums of money have been accumulating in private hands in France, and that the want of confidence alone in Government has operated against their employment. The subscription lists in London show a goodly array of names, and we learn that about £2,000,000 was paid into the hands of the contractors, prior to Monday, as the usual deposit. This sudden withdrawal of capital has had the effect of rendering money rather dearer; but our impression is, though, as yet, no positive arrangement has been made with regard to the foreign subscriptions, that nearly the whole of that amount will be shortly released, and be employed in taking up the new Turkish Loan of £5,000,000, the particulars respecting which will be issued in a few days.

Seeing the large supplemental estimates which have been agreed to by the House of Commons for war purposes, it was at one time thought that new taxes would be inevitable; hence immense clearances of tea, sugar, and coffee were made at the prevailing duties. It is now, however, assumed that those estimates will be met by a fresh issue of £7,000,000 Exchequer Bills, or Bonds, as the Chancellor of the Exchequer moved a series of resolutions to that effect on Thursday evening.

The actual money purchases in the English Stock Market have been very moderate during the whole of the week; nevertheless prices have been steadily supported in every instance. On Monday the Three per Cent Consols were done at 90½ up to 91½; the Three per Cent Reduced, 91½; and the New Three per Cent Consols, 92½. Long Annuities (1855) were 10½; India Bonds, 30s. prem.; Omnium, 4½; Exchequer Bills, 19s. to 22s. prem.; Ditto Bonds, 101 to 100½. There was a slight rise in some of the National Stocks on Tuesday, with some firmness in the market.—The Three per Cent Consols reduced marked 91½; the Three per Cent Consols, 91½; the New Three per Cent Consols, 92½; and Consols for Account, 90½ to 91. Long Annuities, 16 13-16; India Bonds, 32s.; Exchequer Bills, 19s. to 24s. prem. Exchequer Bonds, 100½. On the following day prices were steady. Bank Stock, 214. Consols for Account, 90½ 91; Three per Cent Reduced, 91½; Three per Cent Consols, 91 to 90½; New Three per Cent Consols, 92½; Long Annuities, 1860, 4; Ditto, 1859, 3½; Ditto, 1855, 10½. India Stock, 231. Exchequer Bills, 19s. to 22s. prem.; Ditto Bonds, 100½. On Thursday Public Securities were steady, but very quiet. Consols were 90½ to 91, for money and time. The Three per Cent Consols reduced realised 91½; and the New Three per Cent Consols, 92½. Bank Stock, 214. Exchequer Bills, 21s. to 25s.; India Bonds, 28s. to 29s. prem.

The following statement shows the state of the note circulation of the United Kingdom, for the month ending July 7, 1855:—

Bank of England	£19,931,554
Private banks	3,776,702
Joint-stock banks	3,010,448
Scotland	4,115,907
Ireland	5,752,602
Total	£36,587,313

Compared with the same period in 1854, the above returns show an increase in England of £180,411, and an increase in the United Kingdom of £226,997.

The dealings in most Foreign Bonds have been far from extensive, yet prices have ruled very firm. The following are the leading prices during the week:—Brazilian Five per Cents, 10¼; Mexican Three per Cents, 2½; Peruvian Four-and-a-half per Cents, 8½; Ditto Three per Cents, 5¾; Portuguese Four per Cents, 4½; Russian Five per Cents, 10½; Ditto Four-and-a-half per Cents, 90½; Sardinian Five per Cents, 8¾; Spanish Three per Cents, 3¾; Ditto, New Deferred, 1½; Turkish 5½ per Cents, 9½; Venezuela Four-and-a-half per Cents, 3½; Ditto Deferred, 1¾; Dutch Two-and-a-half per Cents, 64; Ditto Four per Cents, 96½; Austrian Five per Cents, 83. The French Scrip has realised 2½ prem.

As the exchanges have come more favourable both from Paris and Hamburg, there has been very little demand for bullion on continental account; but several large parcels of silver have been forwarded to the Crimea. The imports, since we last wrote, have been about £500,000, chiefly from Australia and New York.

Joint-stock Bank Shares have been very firm, and prices have shown a tendency to improve. Australasia have realised 87½; City, 53½; London, 34½; London Chartered of Australia, 20; London and Westminster, 47 ex div.; Union of Australia, 70½ ex div.; Ditto, New, 7½ ex div.; Union of London, 28½. Miscellaneous securities have realised the following quotations:—Canada Bonds, 126; Crystal Palace, 3; Ditto, Preference, 5½; East and West India Docks, 117½; Electric Telegraph, 18½; General Screw Steam Shipping Company, 194; Mexican and South American, 6½; Royal Mail Steam, 175½. Canal Shares have been very inactive, but not cheaper:—Coventry, 209; Derby, 84; Birmingham (Guaranteed £4 by the London and North-Western Railway Company), 93; Coventry, 209; Derby, 84; Loughborough, 575; Regent's, or London, 14 ex div.; Stourbridge, 285. The value of Waterworks Shares has ruled almost nominal. Insurance Companies' Securities have continued firm. Albion, 83; Alliance, 18; Globe, 108; Guardian, 53 ex div.; Law Life, 57; Rock, 84½; United Kingdom, 5½; Victoria Life, 5½.

The Railway Share Market has ruled somewhat inactive, and prices have shown a tendency to give way. The following are the official closing prices on Thursday:—

ORDINARY SHARES AND STOCKS.—Aberdeen, 24; Edinburgh and Glasgow, 57½; Great Northern, 91; Ditto, A Stock, 63½; Ditto, B Stock, 126½; Great Western, 64½; Lancashire and Yorkshire, 80½; London and Brighton, 99 ex div.; London and North-Western, 93½; Ditto Eighth, 1½; London and South-Western, 86½; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 24½; Midland, 69½; North Staffordshire, 11½; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 25; Scottish Central, 105; Scottish Midland, 70½; South-Eastern, 60½; South Wales, 31½; South Yorkshire and River Dun, 11½.

Lines Leased at Fixed Rentals.—London and Greenwich, 12½; Wilts and Somerset, 93½.

PREFERENCE SHARES.—Eastern Counties Six per Cent, 13½; Great Northern Five per Cent, 11½; Ditto, Four-and-a-half per Cent, 10½; Great Western (Birmingham Stock), 75½; London and Brighton Six per Cent, 137 ex div.; Midland Four-and-a-half per Cent, ½ dis.; Norfolk Debenture Shares, Four per Cent, 89½; Oxford, Worcester, and Wolverhampton, 102½.

FOREIGN. Antwerp and Rotterdam, 9½; Dutch-Rhenish, 9½; East Indian Five per Cent, 24½; Great Central of France, 15½; Great Luxembourg Shares, 3½; Ditto, Obligations, 3½; Great Western of Canada Shares, 22½; Lyons and Geneva, 17½; Northern of France, 36½; Paris and Orleans, 49; Royal Swedish, 1½; Sambre and Meuse, 9½; Western of France, 30½.

Mining Shares have been steady as to price. On Thursday Brazilian Imperial, 2½; Ditto, Cocas and Cuibaa, 4; Pontigbaud Silver Lead, 14; United Mexican, 3½.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE, July 30.—A very limited supply of English wheat was on sale in today's market; nevertheless, the demand for all well-sifted heavy, and a few of the Kentish samples changed hands at a decline of 1s. per quarter. Foreign wheat—the show of which was good—moved off slowly, and the quotations were with difficulty supported. Floating cargoes of grain were dull, and lower to purchase. Owing to the large arrivals from abroad the barley trade was heavy, at 1s. per quarter less money. Malt ruled heavy, but not cheaper. We were well supplied with foreign oats, which met a slow sale, at a fall in price of fully 6d. per quarter. Beans and peas were heavy, on former terms. There was very little doing in flour, and country qualities were rather lower to purchase.

August 1.—The supplies of most articles of grain here to-day were but moderate; yet the general demand was in a sluggish state, at Monday's quotations.

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 70s. to 77s.; ditto, white, 76s. to 84s.; Norfolk and Suffolk red, 71s. to 76s.; rye, 40s. to 43s.; grinding barley, 39s. to 32s.; distilling, ditto, 30s. to 33s.; malted rye, 31s. to 33s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 65s. to 70s.; brown ditto, 62s. to 64s.; Kingston and Ware, 70s. to 72s.; Chevalier, 71s. to 73s.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 25s. to 26s.; potato ditto, 26s. to 31s.; Youghal and Cork, black, 23s. to 26s.; ditto, white, 24s. to 27s.; tick beans, 39s. to 43s.; grey peas, 37s. to 40s.; mangle, 40s. to 42s.; white, 42s. to 44s.; boilers, 42s. to 47s. per quarter. Town-made flour, 65s. to 70s.; Suffolk, 53s. to 54s.; Stockton and Yorkshire, 54s. to 57s. per 80 lb. American flour, 38s. to 42s. per barrel.

Seeds.—Most agricultural seeds are a slow sale, at about stationary prices. Linseed and cakes are firm, and quite as dear as last week.

Linseed, Baltic, crushing, 65s. to 70s.; Mediterranean and Odessa, 68s. to 72s. per quarter; coriander, 20s. to 24s. per cwt.; brown mustard seed, 12s. to 14s.; white ditto, 18s. to 10s.; tares, 5s. to 11s. per bushel; English rapeseed, 52s. to 84s. per quarter; linseed, 10s. to 11s.; tares, 5s. to 11s. per bushel; English rapeseed, 52s. to 84s. per quarter; linseed, 10s. to 11s.; tares, 5s. to 11s. per bushel; English rapeseed, 52s. to 84s. per quarter.

The *Six Weeks' Averages*.—Wheat, 76s. 1d.; barley, 34s. 6d.; oats, 28s. 1d.; rye, 44s. 9d.; beans, 46s. 4d.; peas, 42s. 6d.

English Grain Sold Last Week.—Wheat, 109,891; barley, 5585; oats, 11,042; rye, 111; beans, 2917 cwt. 16s. 6d. quarters.

Tea.—Large public sales have been held this week, and they have gone off heavily, on somewhat easier terms. In the private market the demand is heavy, and the quotations are with difficulty supported.

Sugar.—All kinds of raw sugar have met a very firm market; and, in some instances, the rates have had an upward tendency.—Barbadoes has realised 34s. 6d. to 38s. 6d.; St. Lucia, 34s. to 37s. 6d.; Grenada, 35s. to 37s. 6d.; Benares, 40s. to 46s. 6d.; and yellow Havannah, 40s. to 42s. 3d. per cwt. Refined goods have sold steadily, at 1s. per cwt. more money.—Vis. from 47s. to 53s. per cwt. The total clearances to the 28th ult. were 4,181,939 cwt., against 3,948,419 ditto in 1854.

Coffee.—The public sales held this week have been large, yet a full average quantity has sold, at very full prices. Good ordinary native is worth 48s. per cwt.

Rice.—The transactions in this article are but moderate. Prices, however, are firmly supported.

Provisions.—There is a steady business doing in Irish butter, at an improvement in value of from 1s. to 2s. per cwt. Foreign butters are firm, and rather dearer. The best English moves off freely, at from 104s. to 106s. per cwt. The bacon market is rather active, and

the quotations have improved 1s. per cwt. All other kinds of provisions command fully last week's currency.

Tallow.—We continue to have a good sale for tallow, on higher terms. P. Y. C. on the spot, is selling at 55s. 6d. per cwt. Town tallow is scarce, and worth 54s. per cwt. net cash.

Hay and Straw.—Old meadow hay, 14s. 6d. to 16s. 6d.; new, 12s. to 14s. 6d.; older, 10s. 10d. to 11s. 4d. per gallon. Geneva is firm, at 2s. 10d. to 3s. 6d.; malt spirit, 10s. 10d. per gallon.

Coal.—Wylam, 19s. 6d.; Heaton, 20s. 9d.; Riddell, 21s. 6d.; Eden Main, 22s.; Haigh Hall, 21s. 6d.; South Hartlepool, 22s. 6d.; Tees, 23s. per ton.

Hay and Straw.—Old meadow hay, 14s. 6d. to 16s. 6d.; new, 12s. to 14s. 6d.; older, 10s. 10d. to 11s. 4d. per gallon. Geneva is firm, at 2s. 10d. to 3s. 6d.; malt spirit, 10s. 10d. per gallon.

Hops.—The favourable advices from the plantations have advanced the duty to £270,000. Our market is very dull, at barely the late decline in the quotations.

Wool.—The public sales are still in progress, and about 55,000 bales have now changed hands. Privately the demand is heavy. About 8000 bales have arrived this week, chiefly from the Colonies.

Potatoes.—The supplies are steadily increasing, and the demand is steady, at from 5s. to 6s. per cwt.

Metropolitan Cattle Market.—The supplies or beasts having been limited, the beef trade has ruled brisk, on higher terms. Most other kinds of stock have sold to a moderate extent, at previous rates.

Beef, from 4s. 6d. to 5s. 4d.; mutton, 3s. 6d. to 5s. 2d.; lamb, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 4d.; veal, 4s. 2d. to 5s. 0d.; pork, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 6d. per 8 lbs. to sink the offals.

Newgate and Leadenhall.—These markets have ruled steady, at very full prices.—Beef, from 3s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; mutton, 3s. 4d. to 4s. 10d.; lamb, 4s. 6d. to 5s. 10d.; veal, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 10d.; pork, 3s. 8d. to 4s. 6d. per 8 lbs. by the carcase.

ROBERT HERBERT.

THE LONDON GAZETTE

FRIDAY, JULY 27.

WAR-OFFICE, JULY 27.

BREVET.—Major-Gen. Simpson was to be Lieutenant-General, with the local rank of General in the Crimea, and in the dominions of the Ottoman Empire.

3rd Dragoon Guards: E. W. Park to be Cornet.

48th: Ensign F. N. Astley to be Cornet.

4th Light Dragoons: F. R. Topham to be Cornet.

10th: J. Barker to be Veterinary Surgeon.

17th: C. Wymouth to be Cornet.

Royal Artillery: Second Capt. F. W. C. Ord to be Captain.

1st Life Guards: P. W. L. Estrange, C. E. Burt, C. L. H. M. Ternan, and H. Irvine, to be Second Captains; Quartermaster-Serg. J. Sergeant to be Lieutenant and Adjutant.

Royal Sappers and Miners: Quartermaster-Serg. T. W. J. Conolly to be Quartermaster; 3rd Foot: Ensign R. E. Sleeman to be Lieutenant; F. E. Brace and A. G. Hyslop to be Ensigns; Ensign T. Blisset to be Quartermaster.

7th: Ensigns C. E. Hope and H. Kerr to be Lieutenants; C. S. Cocks and M. Watson to be Ensigns.

8th: R. F. Stoney to be Ensign.

11th: Ensigns R. F. Stoney and J. L. Day to be Ensigns.

12th: Lieut. R. Fairclough to be Captain; M. Cole to be Ensign; Ensign G. Gibson to be Adjutant.

14th: J. T. Casson to be Ensign.

16th: W. H. L. Moyle to be Ensign.

20th: Lieuts. P. G. Hewett and T. C. Lyons to be Captains.

21st: Lieut. J. H. Dunne to be Captain; Ensign T. B. Hutton to be Lieutenant; C. J. F. Smith to be Ensign.

23rd: Ensigns C. F. Gregorie, A. M. Law, to be Lieutenants; J. H. H. Walwyn, W. J. Twyford, H. J. Richards, to be Ensigns.

25th: Ensign W. Taylor to be Lieutenant; E. Gorton, F. S. Eckersall to be Ensigns.

30th: H. S. Harrison to be Ensign.

31st: Lieut. C. Proctor to be Captain.

32nd: Ensigns B. G. Graham, F. W. Benwell, to be Lieutenants; Lieut. H. G. Boyd, G. R. Morgan, J. E. F. Aylmer, to be Ensigns.

34th: Ensign J. L. Stack to be Lieutenant; Ensign L. W. Hume to be Ensign.

35th: Lieut. N. Macdonald to be Captain; Ensigns H. L. Nicholls, C. Pritchard, to be Lieutenants; W. Blennerhasset to be Ensign; Lieut. C. B. Phillips to be Adjutant.

41st: Lieut. J. A. Lockhart to be Captain; Ensign W. H. G. Cornwall to be Lieutenant; F. Mitchell to be Ensign; Quartermaster A. E. Grant to be Paymaster.

44th: Lieut. R. Baillie to be Captain; Ensign A. S. Birch to be Lieutenant; H. N. Salls to be Ensign; Quartermaster-Sergeant R. G. Thomsett to be Quartermaster.

BANKRUPTS.

J. SKINNER, Bouverie-street, Fleet-street, carpenter, auctioneer, and appraiser.—T. REED, George-street, Mile-end New Town, shaft and bent timber manufacturer.—J. and T. J. BEARDSMORE, Audley, Staffordshire, millers.—J. WESTON, Market Harborough, tailor and woollen draper.—S. E. SHEPHERD, Sellinger, near Canterbury, tailor and saddler.—J. JONES, Manchester, machine maker.—G. GODFELLOW, Rowell, Northamptonshire, currier, shoe-manufacturer, and publican.—F. HEBE WESSON, Loughborough, Leicester, bleacher and dyer.—T. NASH, Stourbridge, builder, and straw-bonnet-maker.—J. JONES, Tottenham-court-road, glass and earthenware dealer.—A. F. DE NEUMANN, Gloucester-street, Pimlico, and Lime-street, City, merchant.—A. GIBSON, Great St. Helen's, ship and insurance broker.—A. HALL, Manchester, garden net and Berlin canvas manufacturer.—G. W. HUNTER, Liverpool, ironmonger.—A. BIRCH, Birmingham, grocer.—W. F. POLK, Sydney-cottages, Horsey, and Howard-buildings, Brick-lane, Old-street, St. Luke's, wholesale brush manufacturer.—P. BROWN, Grosvenor-street, Bond-street, and Charlton, Kent, wine merchant.—R. BROWN, Lime-street, City, ship and insurance broker, and of Port Wallace, Nova Scotia.

TUESDAY, JULY 31.

WAR DEPARTMENT, JULY 26.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint Lieutenant-General Sir J. Fergusson, Knight-Commander of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, to be Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the City and Garrison of Gibraltar.

JULY 27.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to give orders for the appointment of the following Officers of Her Majesty's Land Forces to be Ordinary Members of the Bath:—Major-General H. Cole, C. B. of B. Backville, Lord West, 21st Regiment; C. A. Edwards, 18th Regiment; Lieut.-Col. A. Borton, 9th Regiment; S. Brownrigg, Grenadier Guards; C. W. D. Staveley, 44th Regiment; G. V. Maxwell, 88th; J

OPENING OF THE DUTCH-RHENISH RAILWAY.



GOUDA, IN SOUTH HOLLAND.

It will be remembered that in May last the section of this line between Utrecht and Gouda (a length of 20 English miles) was opened for public traffic. The remaining 12½ miles between Gouda and Rotterdam having been now completed, and intended to be opened for public traffic on Monday, July 30, the Direction appointed Friday, the 20th, for the official inauguration of the entire line from Utrecht to Rotterdam.

On this occasion a special train left the Rotterdam terminus at ten a.m., conveying his Royal Highness Prince Henry of the Netherlands, the Minister of the Home Department, the Minister of Finance, the Presidents of both the Legislative Chambers, the Government Inspector of Railways,

the chief Government Engineers of North and South Holland, the local and military authorities of Rotterdam, Mr. Stephen Ballard (agent to Mr. Thomas Brassey, the contractor), &c. The train arrived at Utrecht at 10.55 a.m., thus performing the distance (32½ English miles) in fifty-five minutes, including a stoppage of five minutes at Gouda station, to take up the Burgomaster and some of the guests invited from that town.

At Utrecht station the party were received by the resident English Director, Mr. C. W. Hesleden, and joined (on the subsequent arrival of special trains from Amsterdam and Arnheim) by the President and Dutch Commissaries and Directors, the Burgomasters of Amsterdam,

Utrecht, Arnheim, the civil and military authorities of the province of Utrecht, as well as by the engineers and other officers of the Company and contractor, and the invited guests from those places. The English Commissaries, the London director (Mr. W. J. Chaplin, M.P.), the consulting engineer (Mr. Joseph Locke, M.P.), and the contractor (Mr. Thomas Brassey), were unfortunately prevented from attending.

After partaking of some slight refreshment, the entire party entered the festive train (consisting of twenty-two carriages), and left at 11.45 a.m. for Rotterdam. Short stoppages were made at Woerden and Gouda, and the arrival at Rotterdam took place at one p.m. The pro-



THE DUTCH-RHENISH RAILWAY CROSSING THE ZUYDE-PLAAS FOLDER, ABOVE ROTTERDAM.

OPENING OF THE DUTCH-RHENISH RAILWAY.



OPENING OF THE DUTCH-RHENISH RAILWAY.—TEMPORARY STATION AT ROTTERDAM.

visional station in that city was tastefully decorated with evergreens and flags. In front waved the Dutch, English, and Prussian standards, whilst the spacious covered area of the interior (which was much admired) was adorned with flags bearing the arms of the various towns now connected with Rotterdam by the Railway. The company were received at the station by the Burgomaster and Corporation of Rotterdam, who presented an address to the direction, which was suitably replied to by the Chairman. The Minister of the Home Department then complimented the Company on the completion of the line, expressed his Majesty's great interest in the undertaking, and regret at being unable to attend the opening; and, on behalf of the King, presented the Order of the Netherlands Lion to Mr. Donker Curtius, as President of the Board of Directors.

The party then embarked on board steamers, with bands of music, the intention being to steam up and down before the city, and afterwards have a grand promenade and *matinée musicale* in the park; but at this

stage of the proceedings the weather (which had been for some days of a very unsettled and unpromising character) interfered to frustrate the arrangements. The morning had been dull and showery, but now the rain commenced descending heavily, and the gala-decorations of the shipping in port were thus unfortunately quite lost on the company. An alteration in that part of the programme being thus necessitated, a *réunion* at the Picture Gallery (attended by a considerable number of the guests, was substituted for the promenade.

At five o'clock a *déjeuner-dinatoire* was given by the Corporation of Rotterdam, in the saloon of the Yacht-club House, to a party of about 220. His Royal Highness Prince Henry of the Netherlands presided; and was supported by the Minister of the Home Department, the Burgomaster of Rotterdam, and the various notabilities mentioned as present in the morning. The saloon was tastefully decorated, and the entertainment of a *recherche* character. After "the health" of his Majesty the King of

Holland, Prince Henry of the Netherlands, and the usual loyal toasts, had been duly proposed and honoured, his Royal Highness the Chairman, in an able speech, gave "Success to the Dutch-Rhenish Railway Company;" which toast was appropriately replied to by the Chairman of the Company. The Minister of the Home Department then proposed "the Health of the Burgomasters and Corporations of the Towns on the Line." This toast was replied to by the Burgomaster of Amsterdam, who enlarged on the necessity of a hearty community of feeling between the two great commercial cities of Holland, urged the abandonment of all rivalry, except as to which could most advance the welfare of the common fatherland, and expressed a hope that, as the lines from Amsterdam and Rotterdam both meet at Utrecht, so both cities might unite in strenuous endeavours to promote the prosperity of the country. The Town Clerk of Rotterdam (Mr. Storm van s'Gravesande) then gave "the Health of the Shareholders of the Dutch Rhenish Railway



THE HOOG-STRASS (HIGH-STREET), ROTTERDAM.

Company," coupling therewith the health of Mr. Donker Curtius, as Chairman of the Company. The Minister of Finance then proposed "the Health of the Ladies," which was received with acclamation. The Burgomaster of Rotterdam proposed "Prosperity to the Towns on the Lines of the Dutch-Rhenish Railway;" to which the Burgomaster of Arnhem replied. Mr. van Dam van Isselt, Chairman of the Board of Commissioners of the Company, proposed "the Health of the Vice-Chairman (Mr. Hesleden), the other Directors, and the Engineers," by whose unremitting exertions this work had been accomplished. Mr. Hesleden, in returning thanks, congratulated the Company on having been so fortunate as to secure Mr. Brassey as contractor for the execution of the works; for had it not been for the ability and extensive resources of that gentleman, they would not now have been able to congratulate themselves on this completion. He also remarked that the European, or rather universal, reputation of Mr. Brassey had been fully established and justified in Holland during the carrying out of these works; and concluded by proposing "Health and Success to Thomas Brassey, Esq." Mr. Ballard (agent to Mr. Brassey in Holland) briefly returned thanks.

Shortly after this (about ten p.m.) the party adjourned to "a grand Vauxhall" at the Harmonic Club Gardens. The illumination here was very brilliant; but the proceedings were again interfered with by the heavy rain which commenced between half-past ten and eleven o'clock, and compelled the large party (of about two thousand persons) assembled to retire into the spacious concert-halls, where the band continued the performance of many select pieces of music, and harmony and enjoyment were prolonged till an early hour of the morning.

We subjoin a few details of the construction of the railway. About fifty-seven miles have for many years been completed and in use, between Amsterdam and Arnhem. The completion of the undertaking was delayed till 1854, when Mr. Locke was engaged to examine the Dutch engineer's designs and estimates for completing the line, and to advise the company. Mr. Locke's report and reduced estimate for completing the line gave fresh encouragement to the shareholders (who are principally English); and the works of completion have proceeded with vigour, having been undertaken by Mr. Brassey, and managed by his agent, Mr. S. Ballard.

The most important part of the line, however, remains to be completed, namely, about twelve miles, extending from Arnhem to the Prussian frontier. The great engineering feature of this part of the work is a stupendous iron bridge over an arm of the Rhine, called the Yssel, nearly completed, from the designs of Mr. Edwin Clarke, of London, and the first bridge ever erected over the above river. This Prussian extension is expected to be soon opened, and will then connect the important seaports of Amsterdam and Rotterdam with the system of railways over the continent of Europe.

The line from Amsterdam to Arnhem was made on the broad gauge, but this has been altered, for the sake of uniformity, to the narrow gauge, so that carriages may run through from the seaports of Holland on the same gauge over most of the Continental railways. The greatest part of the line between Utrecht and Rotterdam passes over very deep beds of soft peat, and the foundations of the numerous bridges over the navigable streams have required great care and labour. Nearly 6000 bearing-piles have been driven, many of them upwards of 50 feet in length. The line is throughout an embankment: it mostly passes through a country artificially drained by windmills, the surface of the ground being under the average level of the sea. The works have been executed under the direction of a Dutch engineer, the Baron Van Reede van Oudtshoorn.

We have engraved four Views on the line, sketched by our own Artist. First is a street in Gouda, with its quaint gabled houses. In the second View is shown the Zyde-plaas Polder, through which the line passes about three miles. Fifteen years ago it was a lake of water 12 feet in depth, and covering a surface of 10,000 acres. The Polder is drained by two steam-engines and numerous windmills. What was once the muddy bottom of this lake is now dotted with farm buildings and well-tilled fields. The surface of the ground here is 16 feet below the average level of the sea; and the water, were it not kept back by artificial banks, would rise to a level above the tops of the railway carriages. The two remaining Views show the temporary Railway Station at Rotterdam, and the principal street of that city.

THE BANKRUPTCY OF MESSRS. STRAHAN, PAUL, AND BATES.—

At the Bow-street police-court, London, on Wednesday, Sir John Dean Paul, Bart.; Mr. William Strahan, and Mr. Robert Meakin Bates, were again brought before Mr. Jardine, the sitting magistrate, on the charge of feloniously disposing of certain bonds, the property of the Rev. Dr. Griffiths, Canon of Rochester. Mr. Bodkin, for the prosecution, stated that they were still engaged in tracing the property, and were that day able to bring up such evidence as would clearly show that particular bonds, the undoubted property of Dr. Griffiths, had been made away with. After doing this he should ask for a further remand; and, as Mr. Beatty, an important witness, was abroad, and would not return until the early part of September, it might be necessary to ask for continued remands until then. The learned counsel then called Mr. John Hill, stockbroker, who deposed that he bought, by the prisoners' orders, £2000 Danish Bonds. He did not remember who gave the order, but they were delivered to the prisoners, and the numbers ranged from 557 to 663, and two were numbered 793 and 794 (these were charged to Dr. Griffiths, in his pass-book, at the sum the broker charged; viz., £2067 10s.). Mr. Sludden, clerk in the banking-house of Messrs. Smith, Payne, and Smith, produced four Danish Bonds, numbered 659, 660, 661, and 662, which were deposited in March, 1854, at their bank, by Messrs. Barnett and Ellis, stockbrokers, on account of Mr. Joseph Sykes, a customer. They received the dividends on those bonds, and placed the amount to the credit of Mr. Sykes. The first dividends received were in September, 1854. Dr. Griffiths's pass-book was here produced; and from that book it was shown that, although the prisoners had not received the September and subsequent dividends, they had credited the rev. gentleman with the amount.—Mr. Frederick Savory, clerk to Hambro and Co., of Old Broad-street, agents to the Danish Government for paying the dividends on these bonds, proved that, in March, 1854, the dividends were paid to Strahan and Co., and in the following September to Messrs. Smith, Payne, and Co.—Charles Peppercorn, stockbroker, deposed that he had purchased in February, 1841, certain Dutch Bonds, costing £216 13s. 4d., amongst which was one numbered 3348. In September, 1853, he was requested by the prisoners, to raise £10,000 on Dutch Bonds, which they gave him to the amount of 200,000 florins. He accordingly procured £2000 from Messrs. Levy and Son, and £5000 from Mr. Soden, and paid over the £10,000 to the prisoners. One of the bonds deposited with Messrs. Levy and Son was numbered 3348.—Mr. Bodkin stated that this was all the evidence he had to offer that day. One link in the chain of evidence to connect the prisoners with the bonds deposited with Smith, Payne, and Co. was Mr. Beatty, who was abroad, and would not return till Sept. Mr. Ballantine, for Sir J. D. Paul and Mr. Strahan, renewed his application for his clients to be admitted to bail; or, in the event of the magistrate objecting to that course, applied to have them at once fully committed for trial, so that application might be made to a judge who would then have the power to admit them to bail.—Mr. Parry, for Mr. Bates, made the same application, stating that even now no evidence had been brought against his client. After some conversation Mr. Jardine agreed to accept bail till Wednesday next, then to be again renewed for a week, each of the prisoners in the amount of £6000 for himself, and two sureties of £2000 each.

CREMORNE GARDENS.—Mr. Simpson, the indefatigable proprietor of these Gardens, has announced a series of grand entertainments for his benefit, on Thursday next. A magnificent military spectacle and fête are also in preparation, the proceeds of which are to be appropriated to the funds of the Wellington College, of which his Royal Highness Prince Albert is President.

CORPORATION REFORM.—At a Court of Common Council, on Monday last, Mr. J. H. Fry gave the following notice of motion:—"That it is desirable to co-operate with her Majesty's Government in passing through Parliament a bill for the Reform of the Corporation of London, founded upon the resolutions agreed to by this Court on the 24th day of February, 1854."

ST. MARK'S HOSPITAL FOR DISEASES OF THE RECTUM.—On Monday the Auxiliary Society, consisting of relieved patients and friends, held their twelfth annual festival, at Highbury-barn Tavern. Upwards of 100 sat down to an excellent dinner. Some of the gentlemen connected with the parent charity, and Mr. Salmon, the founder, were present. The chair was taken by J. Frith, Esq., in the room of Mr. Alderman Copeland, who was unavoidably prevented from attending. The usual toasts were given and warmly responded to, and the day passed off very pleasantly. The subscriptions at the table amounted to £215, including a donation from Mr. Alderman Copeland of £25.

THE PEEL MONUMENT IN THE CITY.—At a meeting of the Peel Monument Committee, on Wednesday, Sir Peter Laurie in the chair, it was unanimously resolved that the following shall be the inscription upon the pedestal of the statue of Sir Robert Peel, at the top of Cheap-side:—"I Peel, born 5th February, 1788; died 2nd July, 1850."

LONDON ILLUMINATED.—Sir Samuel Romilly was at his seat at Tanshurst, in Surrey, in 1814, when the rejoicings took place on account of the triumphs of the Allies, and he records in his Diary, "From Leith-hill we saw, on Easter Tuesday (April 13), at night, the light of the illuminations of London on account of the recent events at Paris."

THE SILENT MEMBER.—(No. XXVIII.)

THE Beer Bill of last Session is being repealed, or at all events is being passed through the Commons, almost as precipitately as it was enacted a year ago, when nobody except Mr. Brady, who appears to have been quite "alone in his glory," took the trouble to utter a word against the measure. The advice which I last week tendered to the House of Commons I now offer in a friendly spirit to the Lords, who, it must be admitted, are not backward in listening to the claims of public opinion when it has been pronounced in an unmistakable manner. The Legislature may wisely and safely resist mere clamour, but the call for the repeal of the Beer Act of last Session is not a cry got up by a section of the community, but a reasonable demand founded on strong conviction and rather bitter experience. Amid the feeling of uneasiness that is not unlikely to prevail during the recess if the war should continue to drag its slow length along without any decidedly favourable result, it would be painful indeed to find that a real ground of discontent, which might have been removed by the repeal of the obnoxious Beer Bill, had been allowed to add to the general spirit of disquietude. A nation in difficulties, like an individual in trouble, is generally rather irritable; and if ever the "soothing system" ought to be practised by statesmen, it is at a moment when the public patience is sorely tried by burdens and anxieties which the present generation have not been accustomed to.

As the Session glides away it is melancholy to reflect on the little that has been really done, and the great deal that has been either attempted and given up, or not attempted at all, on the ground of the "difficulties" surrounding the attainment of the objects desired. It is time that this pusillanimous principle should be cast aside by the governing classes, whose duty it is to overcome difficulties, and not to succumb to them. The amount of difficulty should be the measure of the earnestness employed in removing obstacles, instead of being the excuse for refraining from continuous effort. In legislation, as in everything else, there is not much worth doing that can be done very easily, and there is no excuse whatever for a Government which, while admitting that certain things ought to be done, refuses, on the ground of the alleged difficulty, to proceed with their execution. Ministers are not paid five thousand a year each for doing that which is easy. And a Government will never properly fulfil its functions while there exists in official vocabulary the too familiar phrase—"There are difficulties in the way of the proposed plan, and though it is undoubtedly good in principle, we cannot undertake to put it into practice." Lord Palmerston shows glimpses, from time to time, of an energy still capable of dealing with all obstacles thrown in his way when pursuing the right path, and if he were more frequently to display the vigour he exhibited in pushing forward the new bill relating to the Law of Partnership, he would be far more successful than he is as a Prime Minister. A display of spirit animates the zeal of friends and discourages the hostility of enemies. When a Minister acts and speaks as if he knew himself to be in the right, those who are factiously opposing him begin to feel that they are in the wrong; and he gains an amount of moral power which is almost sure to lead to a successful issue. I do not wish to discourage the efforts of a *bona fide* friend to economy; but the cause is likely to suffer by a systematic carping at almost every item in the public expenditure. Imitators are apt to adopt the faults and peculiarities of their originals; and I am sorry to observe that Mr. W. Williams, who aspires to the position of successor to the late Joseph Hume, is adopting, and indeed far exceeding, all the captiousness on the subject of outlay, for which that great financial reformer was often ridiculed. Among other proposals of Mr. Williams for saving the public money, was the rather absurd one that the expense of lighthouses should be defrayed by the inhabitants of the places in which the lighthouses are built, as if the residents at a watering-place on the coast were in danger of being run down by ships coming on shore for want of proper signals. Nothing is easier than to jump up and object to every item in a Committee of Supply; but such a course will waste more of the public time than will be saved of the public money. It is to be regretted that Mr. Williams should weaken his own power of doing good by continually obtruding his objections where there is nothing that can be reasonably objected to.

The inquiry into the disturbances in Hyde-park, or rather into the conduct of the police, on the occasion referred to, has elicited some facts, not immediately connected with the object in question, but which the authorities will do well to act upon. The state of the cells at some of the police stations seems to be such as to need immediate reform, for it is certainly most unfair that persons against whom no charge has been proved, and who are not unfrequently quite innocent, should be exposed to injuries to health to which even convicted criminals ought not to be rendered liable. It is true that at periods when there is any sudden influx of persons taken into custody there may be a scarcity of accommodation, though there might be ample room for an average number; but nothing seems to justify the dampness and insufficient ventilation of such space as is set apart for the reception of prisoners. As long as the evil was not made the subject of notoriety it may have been lost sight of under the general apathy with which those evils are regarded, for which no one is especially responsible; but after the publicity given to the facts by the evidence taken before the Commission now sitting, it will be impossible that ignorance can be pleaded by those who, possessing the power, are morally, if not legally, bound to remedy the evil.

The morality of the British merchant, wholesale as well as retail, is placed in a somewhat doubtful light by the disclosures that have been made before the Committee for inquiring into the adulteration of drugs, drinks, and eatables. He is said to have been a bold man who first ate an oyster; but after what we have lately seen in the papers, it may almost be said that he is a bold man who ventures to eat anything. Adulteration has in fact become an art, or rather a regular profession; and publicans keep in their service a class of persons called "adulterators," whose duty it is to perform such mysteries as turning vitriol and water into gin, or producing large quantities of beer from comparatively small quantities of the genuine article. The Legislature will, naturally enough, be expected to provide some protection to the public against such a state of things; and the Legislature will, probably, find an excuse for doing nothing in the "difficulties" with which the subject is surrounded. If the matter is taken up in good time next Session, the "difficulties" will not be so great as they are likely to appear if the subject is only touched when members are anxious to get released from their Parliamentary duties. Nearly all classes, including the governing classes, work too hard at particular times, and indeed a better distribution of the hours of labour would be a boon to the whole community. The late hours of the Commons tell on some of the weaker members with damaging effect; and nearly the whole House has a worn and jaded aspect, as the Session approaches its termination. A better example on the part of the Legislature would give great help to the movement now making for a general half-holiday in all places of business on the Saturday—a consummation which would have more effect than any amount of restrictive laws in the diminution of Sunday drunkenness. A half-holiday on Saturday would give the working classes an opportunity of marketing, in time to prevent the necessity for making purchases on the following day, and would thus act more powerfully than any law that could be passed for the diminution of Sunday trading. The middle classes would be often able to avail themselves of excursion-trains for a run out of town; and even the labouring classes would in time find it practicable, by the aid of cheap travelling, to enjoy the same advantage. The health and the enjoyment of all would be materially increased, and the wealth of the country would be augmented rather than diminished by a state of things that would promote cheerfulness, and thus give an impetus to industry. A correspondence on the subject of Early Closing on Saturday has been recently published; and an earnest appeal made to the Lord Chancellor to close the Court of Chancery on Saturday, as a boon to the law-copyists, who are overwhelmed with work on Sunday, is answered by his Lordship's secretary, who is directed to state that the Chancellor "sees great difficulties in the way" of attaining the end desired. Here is the old official and legislative cause for abandoning or declining to enter upon an effort for the promotion of a

good object. If every benefactor of his species had stopped in his pursuit when he saw "difficulties in the way," what would have become of almost every one of the great acts which have contributed to the happiness of mankind or the welfare of society?

LOWESTOFT REGATTA.

THE annual regatta of this important and rapidly-improving town took place on Tuesday, the 24th ult., under the patronage of the Earl of Albemarle, the Earl of Yarborough, Lord Alfred Paget, M.P.; Sir E. S. Gooch, Bart., M.P.; Sir T. M. Wilson, Bart.; Sir S. M. Peto, Bart.; Sir F. Kelly, Bart., M.P.; Sir S. Bignold, M.P.; Mr. R. Stephenson, M.P.; Mr. D. Waddington, M.P.; Mr. J. C. Cobbold, M.P.; the Mayor of Norwich; Lieut.-Colonel Bedingfield, Messrs. A. Arcebeckne, E. L. Betts, H. W. Eaton, J. Goodson, and Captain W. S. Andrews.

The weather was most unfavourable for the sight-seers, for till about three p.m., a drizzling rain descended, sometimes increasing to heavy beating squalls; and the wind, which was from S.W., was blowing at times very fresh. Still, from an early hour, excursion trains arrived in quick succession from London, Norwich, Yarmouth, Cambridge, and other places within hail of the line, and poured out their vast numbers over the esplanade, the north pier, the sea-beach, and the cliffs. The south pier was not very crowded, owing no doubt to the extra charge. As on former occasions, Mr. A. Arcebeckne, the Commodore of the Harwich Yacht-club, had kindly given his vessel, the *Navice*, 79 tons, for the use of the committee: she was gallily dressed with flags, and anchored off the harbour's mouth, close to the buoy from which the yachts were started, and served also as the rounding vessel at the finish.



THE FIRST PRIZE CUP, LOWESTOFT REGATTA.

The sports commenced with a schooner match for a Piece of Plate of the value of 100 guineas; no restriction as to sails or men; time for tonnage (as altered for the occasion), according to Ackers's scale; three to start or no race. The following yachts took up their stations:—*Cosette*, 47 tons, Mr. E. G. Peel; *Georgiana*, 110 tons, Captain Thellusson; *May Fly*, 140 tons, Mr. G. P. Bidder. The course was from off the pier, round the Stamford Light Ship to the north, through the Pakefield Gat to the southward, thence to a station-vessel about fifteen miles to windward, leaving her on the port side, and returning to the starting-place by the Pakefield Gat, passing between the station-vessel (the *Navice*) and the pier-heads. Precisely at 12h. 20m. 30s. the signal was fired to prepare, and at 12h. 31m. 30s., another gun for the start. The *Cosette* was very soon out of the match, and, after the other vessels had beat through the narrow channel on their way out to sea, they were soon lost to sight, and the attention of the crowd was turned to the starting of the other matches. They arrived at the flag-ship as under:—

Georgiana 6h. 23m. 33s. | *May Fly* 6h. 21m. 51s.

The *Cosette* did not arrive till nearly an hour afterwards. A protest was made by the *May Fly* against the *Georgiana*, on the ground that at the start she did not pass between the station-vessel and the pier; but there was nothing in the sailing directions to that effect. The committee, after much discussion, referred the matter to two umpires, who decided in favour of the *Georgiana*.

The second race was for a Piece of Plate, value £30, to be sailed for by yachts not exceeding 50 tons. For this race the following yachts came to their stations:—*Thought*, 25 tons, Coope; *Maud*, 25 tons, Captain Andrews; *Avalon*, 25 tons, J. Goodson. The course was from the moorings laid down abreast of the North Pier head, round the Newcombe, leaving the buoys and the light ship on the port hand, and home, passing between the *Navice* and the pier-heads, three times round. The *Thought* took the lead, followed by the *Avalon* and *Maud*, and they completed the third round as follows:—

Thought, 5h. 47m. 49s. | *Avalon*, 5h. 53m. 40s. | *Maud*, 6h. 24m. 40s.

A Purse of £20, to be sailed for by yachts not exceeding 20 tons. The same course as in the preceding race; twice round. For this prize the following yachts were entered, and came to their stations:—*Vampire*, 15 tons, N. Peppercorn; *Warney*, 15 tons, T. C. Lucas; *Chamois*, 9 tons, Hon. G. Duncombe. All these little yachts set their canvas with great alacrity, and made a very good start, the *Vampire* having a slight lead. The tiny *Chamois*, after making a very good fight for the first time round, was at length compelled to succumb to her larger rivals, and in the last round she was so far distanced as not to be timed. The *Vampire* fully maintained her previous character in this race, the *Warney* never having a chance.

A Purse of 15 sovs for river latten and cutter rigged boats; half a minute per foot allowed for difference of length. The following boats started:—*Iris*, 27 ft., R. Reeve; *Kestrel*, 29 ft., W. Butler; *Shannon*, 16 ft., W. Brighton; *Alma*, 24 ft., C. Francis. The *Iris* took the lead and kept it easily to the finish. The *Shannon* gave up, and the *Kestrel* came in second, followed by the *Alma*, after a well-contested race.

The Yawl Race did not take place owing to the rule of three to start or no race.

A Purse of £20, for six-oared beach gigs. For this race three boats started, viz.:—*Pil Try*, Lowestoft; *Kale*, Lowestoft; and *Teaser*, Southwold; and, after some very determined rowing, it was won by *Teaser*, and *Pil Try* second.

In the evening a Duck Hunt, and other amusements of a minor character, were followed by a brilliant display of fireworks opposite the hotel.

On Wednesday morning, the weather being far more propitious than on the previous day, most of the yachts sailed out of harbour, and were reviewed in front of the Royal Hotel. One column was led by the *Navice* schooner, and the other by the *Maud* cutter, Captain Andrews. Mr. James Goodson, the respected Commodore of the Royal London Yacht-club, was among the guests of Mr. A. Arcebeckne, on board the *Navice*, and flew his broad pennant at the fore of the schooner. The review, which was one of the most beautiful features of the Regatta, and which we have engraved, gave the greatest satisfaction to all who witnessed it; and, with some excellent boat races, concluded the Regatta.

In the evening there was a splendid banquet at the Royal Hotel, provided by Mr. S. Howett, and presided over by Sir M. Peto. Upwards of one hundred and fifty sat down, and the entertainment was kept up with great spirit to the last.

"L'ETOILE DU NORD,"

AT THE ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

In our Journal of last week we gave a lengthened review of the performance of Meyerbeer's magnificent opera. We now engrave the animated scene in the first act of the "Etoile du Nord," in which the festivities of the dockyard labourers and country-people are interrupted by *Coporal Gritzenko* (Lablache) and his savage troop of Cossacks, who are enticed away by the singing and dancing of *Catherine* (Mdlle. Bosio) and her band of village girls.

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Gentlemen,—The safe you fixed here some years ago has indeed proved a good one, and done good service. Last week some thieves broke into our office, and tried their hands upon your safe. First they seem to have used their crowbars, and then gunpowder, but both proved vain; for money, bills, and deeds were all safe enough in your "Safe," and under your lock and key. We have great pleasure in informing you of this, of which you can make any use you please.—We are, gentlemen, your obedient servants,

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LOWESTOFT REGATTA.—THE REVIEW OF THE YACHTS.—(SEE PAGE 142.)



SCENE FROM MEYERBEER'S "L'ÉTOILE DU NORD," AT THE ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.—(SEE PAGE 142.)

CHAMPAGNE BOTTLING, AT PIERRY, IN FRANCE.



THE DISGORGING.



CORRING.



FASTENING THE CORK WITH STRING.



WRAPPING.

TINFOILING.

WIRING.

STRINGING.

CORRING.

DISGORGING.

PACKING.



FASTENING THE CORK WITH WIRE.



PUTTING ON THE TINFOIL.



WRAPPING THE BOTTLE IN PAPER.

SOMETHING ABOUT CHAMPAGNE.

(With Illustrations from Photographs taken at Pierry.)

WHAT a day! The heat is intolerable, and yet Baxter has dared to speak of dinner. Well, it is not his fault that the thermometer is 90 deg., so we will obey the summons. Capital Baxter! you are the best fellow that ever devoted his energies to a lazy bachelor. This room, darkened by the flowers in the window and the crepers about the lattice-work, has half dispelled the languor which made odious the idea of eating. What have you provided? Hum! A *soufflet* of flounders—a *compote* of pigeon—and a salad of strawberries. Well, one may struggle with such a repast. No wine! the blood is already feverish with heat. Yet, stay! this is Ida's birthday, and she must be toasted as becomes the lady of my heart. You have remembered that, also, my good Baxter, and have prepared the only draught worthy of such an honour—a bottle of champagne iced to a degree. This bumper I drink in silence. How grateful—how delicious! Remove those gross matters, and leave me alone with this sublimated liquor—created for love's libations. What other draught born of the grape goes direct to the heart like this and in a moment makes the pulse beat quicker? What pleasant memories are associated with this reaming glass, remembering as we do the silent tongues it has made eloquent, and the anxious hours it has converted into mirthfulness. Who has not led some bashful maiden down to supper and thought the task a bore until a glass—perhaps two—of this elixir has converted her into the sweetest prattler that was ever listened to? Or who has not seen some scornful lady that has slighted the heart devoted to her through a whole programme of quadrilles and polkas, smile at last when humanised by a *fizz* of champagne? Who has not seen the stately matron, erst enthroned in dreadful maternal majesty on the ottoman of state to frown down younger sons and control freehearted daughters, grow quite familiar with young Potter of the Treasury when the sparkling Epernay has crept into her veins and made her old heart young again? What dull dinners have become brisk, dashing affairs after the cheerful pop of our generous ally has been heard in the room, stimulating, as it were, the drowsiest spirits to imitate the vivacity of the sparkling liquor. Claret, port, madeira, are all disputatious liquors—but who can argue over champagne? It leaps into your glass, challenging you to drink and be happy, "to care not why, and ask not wherefore,"—and Heaven knows there are times in most of our lives when that is "a consummation devoutly to be wished." May he who first created champagne rest for ever with the "inventor of the Leather Bottle," and that is in the best of places.

Can it be possible that, whilst we have been rhapsodising, we have exhausted the bottle? That this fellow, so lively half an hour ago, is now "a dead man"? Let us be grateful, and give some account of its birth, parentage, and education.

About eighty miles east of Paris is the department of the Marne. In a small portion of this department enclosed between the town of Eklins on the north, Chalons-sur-Marne on the east, Vertus on the south, and Epernay on the west, the champagne grapes are grown. The river Marne separates this portion of the department into two unequal parts, that on the north side being the larger. The champagne growers divide these parts into four districts. The first district, which is about eight miles long, and one and a half in width, is on the north side of the river, on an elevation called the Montagne de Reims, and comprises the parishes of Chigny, Rilly, Verzy, Verzenay and Mailly, Reims, Aulnay, and Bouzy. The second district, about nine miles long and one and a half wide, is on the south side of the Montagne de Reims, and consists of the parishes of Ay, Cunniers, Hauvillers, Dizy, Mareuil, and Avenay. The third district, about ten miles in length and two miles in width, is on the south side of the Marne, and includes the parishes of Epernay—where Messrs. Moët and Chandon's establishment is situated—Chouilly, Cramont, Avize, Oger, Le Mesnil, and Vitus. The fourth district, about five square miles, contains the parishes of Pierry (the birthplace of the *départé*), Moussy, and St. Martin.

The wines of these various places differ greatly in taste and character, and are the produce both of the white and black grape, principally of the latter; but those wines which have the larger admixture of the white grape are supposed to possess greater delicacy: or, as it is called, by the growers "fineness." The vintage commences about the end of September, and if completed by the early part of October the year is considered to be a good one as the white grapes are then obtained in greater abundance. And a busy and merry time is that same vintage. No idlers then! Every individual man, woman, and child is called into requisition to gather the grapes, and every donkey and mule to carry them. Troops are seen in all directions ascending and descending the steep and narrow paths leading to the vineyards. In some places the grapes, after being gathered in the cool of the morning, are carried in baskets; and, whichever the mode of transit, are then placed in the wine-presses, the juice running into casks, where it is allowed to ferment. The grapes are not put into a mash-tub, but undergo three or four separate squeezings. In about a fortnight the casks are filled up, bunged tightly, and allowed to remain until the middle of January, when the wine is racked off and clarified.

In May the process of bottling commences, each bottle receiving a lump of sugar-candy (we suppose to keep it in good humour), and the cork is fastened with string. The bottles are then put to bed in a rack, with their necks downwards, at an angle of forty-five degrees, and from time to time shaken and placed more perpendicularly, so that the sediment may get into their throats. This result is not arrived at under some fifty shakings, which require to be done with so much skill and care that champagne nurses are subjected to a twelve-month's practice before they are entrusted to perform this delicate operation. The nurse grasps the bottom of the bottle with his right hand, and by a sort of half twist of the wrist the sediment is made to descend into the neck. When the sediment is all deposited the wine, as you may suppose, is ready for disgorging, which is performed (Fig. 1) by the nurse holding the bottle in a slightly inclined position, cutting the string and instantaneously elevating the bottle, when the cork is blown out, and with it all the sediment. The great art is to perform the operation without wasting the wine, and the *disgorgement* in the Engraving is cutting the string and firing the cork into the *degorgoir* before him, which receives the cork, the sediment, and any wine which may escape. This refuse (with the exception of the corks) is made into a villainous stuff, and named brandy.

The "disgorged" bottle is then handed to the corker who is provided with a steam apparatus which keeps the corks hot and moist. By means of a mallet and a machine called a "chantier" (Fig. 2) the bottle is recorked. A clever and strong man will manage 3000 bottles a day.

Le felleur, a dexterous fellow, then fastens on the string (Fig. 3); and passes the bottle to the next workman, *le ficelleur en fer*, who wires it up securely (Fig. 4).

The bottle may now be said to have got over its troubles, and a fair damsel (Fig. 5) tenderly encloses its head in tinfoil. After which a respectable matron (as shown in Fig. 6), wraps it carefully up in paper, and puts it again to bed with sometimes three to four millions of brother bottles (as at Messrs. Moët and Chandon's), there to remain until exported to complete its mirthful mission, like the "dead man" before us.

We are affected by the recollection of its virtues, and must ring for a *demi-bouteille*.

THE JESUITS.—A return, just published at Rome, shows that the Order of Jesuits at present consists of 5510 members; 1515 of whom are in Italy, 1097 in France, 463 in Belgium, 364 in Spain, 177 in Germany, and 1224 in England, America, and other countries. In 1797, when the order was at the height of its glory, it possessed not fewer than 19,816 members.

AMERICAN ENTERPRISE.—By a recent decision in one of the superior law courts of New York, it has been laid down that the Act only prohibits the sale of liquors of domestic manufacture. The next morning all the stores displayed signs certifying "none but imported liquors sold here." The *New York Herald* says on this—"The enterprise displayed by the liquor-dealers in disposing of their American liquor in one night, and filling their shops with imported liquor by next morning, is certainly very extraordinary, and merits public notice."

GREAT FIRE AT CONSTANTINOPLE.—The *Moniteur* of Tuesday contains a communication, addressed by General Larchey to the Minister of War, giving an account of a conflagration which broke out at Constantinople on the 17th of July, and for a time exposed the French military workshops to imminent danger. The fire began just after noon, and, favoured by the heat of the sun and an impetuous changing wind, consumed 130 houses. The buildings occupied by the French were entirely of wood, and were only saved by the incessant exertions of the *pompiers*, who likewise saved many houses of the town, which must otherwise have been destroyed.

THE FRENCH ARMY.—The *Kreuz Zeitung* goes into figures to show that Prussia needs not fear a French demonstration on the Rhine; thus, France has 101 infantry regiments; of these 11 have been sent to the East, 2 are at Rome, 12 at least must be in Africa, so that only 46 can remain in France. At least 10 regiments are wanted for Paris and other populous towns, leaving but 36 infantry regiments, or 105 battalions, free for other service. These armed with a due proportion of troops of other arms, would furnish an army of at most 120,000 men, decidedly too few, the *Kreuz Zeitung* thanks, to extraneous Prussia. A recent reinforcement of the garrison of Strasbourg, and some remarks thereon in a Belgian newspaper, have called forth this display of German military logic.

THE WAR IN THE CRIMEA.

(From our Artist and Special Correspondent.)

BEFORE SEBASTOPOL, July 16, 1855.

ONE of the curious phenomena attending the siege of large cities is in course of development at this moment before Sebastopol. On our first appearing on the shores of the ancient Taurida—confident in the vivacity and unexpectedness of our attack—we landed with a force of fighting men destined, as we fondly hoped, to overcome every material obstacle in field and fortress. The Russians, we were taught to expect, were unable to cope with us in the open plains of the Crimea; and the walls of Sebastopol would not long withstand the force of our arms. In this conquering mood our fighting men advanced—vanquished the enemy opposed to us, and stood expectant before the city whose walls bristling with cannon were to be the next trophies of their valour. In these vain hopes we were disappointed; and, as week after week and month after month expired in steady but prolonged efforts to overcome the resistance of the enemy, our soldiers toiled more as labourers than as fighting men, and spent in the work of pick and mattock, and in draught and carriage, those energies which should have been carefully husbanded for other purposes. A radical vice of our system of warfare, relaxed by years of peaceful habits, was here exhibited; and it was not until nearly 25,000 valuable lives were lost to the service of the country that our leaders came to the conclusion that fighting men were destined to fight, and not to labour. Then it was that the phenomenon incident to long sieges began to show itself to our astonished eyes; and, like the Greeks at the beleaguering of Troy, the Allies before Sebastopol commenced the edification of small towns of their own, *en attendant* the capture of the city against which our efforts were directed.

At first, when few sutlers and vendors of small wares diligently trafficking with a daily profit of 300 per cent, made their appearance, our chiefs were content to let them settle in the houses of Balaklava, whose dimensions rendered them almost unsuited for any purpose of their own; but as the numbers of the camp followers increased, and as the conviction gradually crept over us, that Sebastopol was not "going to be taken," it became necessary to devise measures for transforming our port of landing into a magazine, and in that view the hovels and gardens of the Arnaout Greeks were devoted to destruction. I shall not pause here to inquire at what tremendous sacrifices of the lives and resources of our country, the necessity of these measures was forced upon the unwilling senses of our officials. There are historians of our fatal errors and delays, more able and not less convinced than myself. Suffice it that the town being destined to be transformed into stores for military purposes, the sutlers and camp-followers were sent away, and a piece of ground allotted to them on the spot where once stood Kadikoi. At first a row of worn and dirty tents marked the spot; next small cabins, composed of a few planks were erected, then buildings of wood of more ambitious form arose, and a street was traced out. Then dawned a new era in our military management, and we commenced the importation of labourers skilled and unskilled, who were destined to spare the limbs of our soldiers from all but their own soldierlike duties. British "navvies" came to construct a railway; vast numbers of muleteers were engaged from Malta and Spain; and labourers for carriage, for draught, and for manual work generally, were also called in. These it became necessary to house, and a piece of ground was allotted to them as it had been to the sutlers, and camp-followers. This influx of attendants upon our army formed a community which is gradually shaping out a small town on the outskirts of Balaklava.

Since the sutlers took possession of the ground assigned to them they have increased in vast numbers. Instead of a dozen traders selling every species of goods under the sun, from Cheshire cheeses to mittens, and from sauce-ans to the last volume of the "Shilling Library," we have men of specialties—the tinsman, saddler, and armourer, the shoemaker, and the baker. Even the soda-water-maker has erected his shop; and taverns are to be seen, with "Quel si vendi vino e altre oggett," "Vente de vins et d'espritueux"—the spelling is not in me—and Jews of every country, vendors of every set, clime, and denomination, are busy. The sutlers' town has joined hands with that of the labourers', and thus we have the foundation of a city which will soon have its streets and lanes marked by names, whilst quarters of them will be recollected in the future as the "Croats' Suburb," the "Jewry," "German-lane," &c.

The most curious of all these quarters at present is that of the Croats, of whom there are not less than 2000 settled in the vicinity of Balaklava. These men are not Slavonians, as their name would lead one to suppose, but Mussulmans of the Austrian and Turkish borders. They have all the habits of the East; they provide their own meat and water when on ship-board, refusing to consort with Christians. They are large and muscular men, capable of the heaviest labour, and exceedingly tractable. Their martial spirit, exercised by the constant habit of carrying arms, rendered them troublesome at first; and it became necessary to deprive them of the little arsenals of pistols and knives which each of them carried; and the possession of which made them dangerous, not so much to the English, of whom they have a wholesome dread, as to each other. They were furnished on their arrival with large quantities of planks and beams, with which to erect huts for themselves. Children as they were in the art of building, their efforts went no further than the formation of rude shelters, beneath which they retired for the night, braving alike the frost or the rain which penetrated through the numerous apertures in their ill-contrived sheds. But, though rude and ill arranged, these edifices were of the most picturesque description—just as in their rude method of clothing they exhibit an instinct knowledge of the harmony of colours. These buildings of theirs, however, were not permitted to remain, and rows of large huts were made for them, in which raised platforms line each side of the place, and each man stretches his carpet on which he squats and sleeps without much thought of personal cleanliness. They were not long established in these square and unpicturesque homes, than they began to build galleries outside, with rails to recline against; and they sowed melon-seeds and barley and beans, which created a little verdure round them. In the long evenings after work is over, they may be seen reclining in picturesque groups on these outer balconies, smoking pipes, and lazily inhaling the evening breeze. The narghilé, which is their favourite relaxation, they could not at first obtain, but necessity, the mother of invention, spurred their dull intellects, and you see them smoking narghilés not perhaps of the most orthodox description, but certainly acting as well as the most perfect of its kind. The base of this instrument, instead of being a bulb of crystal, is a pickle-jar still labelled "gherkins," or a flask from some medicine-chest in which "Pulv. rhei" no longer reigns supreme.

But these Mussulman Croats have no more remained unattended followers than any other portion of our army; and several picturesque erections of wood or canvas occupy the ground near them, where the fragrant chibouque and coffee, the perfumed narghilé, are obtainable for a few paras, and where those who are willing to expend find everything that is a luxury to the Oriental. Indeed, there is not one of these men who is not perfectly able to afford himself every enjoyment of this kind; for, in addition to the rations which are served out to them daily, they receive half-a-crown a day, which, being regularly handed over to them, makes each man independent, and even able to save for future wants. Whether at work at the roads, or driving piles at the quays, or carrying like the *hannals* of Constantinople, the Croats of Balaklava are eminently picturesque; but they are nowhere more so than when at rest, either in their *cafs* and balconies, where their variegated and richly-coloured rags form scenes which would have delighted Pity or Müller, had those gifted artists been here to see them. As it is, the quarter which they inhabit

has a set of features peculiar to it, and will probably be remembered as the "suburb of the Croats," long after the last of that race has ceased to tread the soil of the Crimea.

July 17, 1855.

It will perhaps be somewhat startling to you to learn that the measure announced by Lord Palmerston to the House, as intended to improve the position of the army before Sebastopol, has not been received here with any marked degree of favour. The subject of pay and allowances is one on which soldiers are generally talkative. It has often been asked, long before the measure contemplated by Lord Palmerston was announced, what reason there could be for withholding from the soldiers in active service before Sebastopol the allowances granted to those who serve in the Colonies—the climate of the Crimea being almost as dangerous as that of the West India islands, and the service there much more active and more dangerous. There is no doubt that double pay is a very great boon to soldiers; but, in order that it may be felt, it must be palpable; and the clause which declared that the money would not be paid, but must remain in the savings-banks in England, entirely destroyed the effect which might have been made upon the mind of the soldier. "Who knows," say the men—(this I have myself heard)—"who knows how long I may live in the Crimea, or whether I shall ever get out of it; and what use is money then to me in the savings-bank?" Such is the reasoning, and such undoubtedly the feeling here upon the subject; and this is rendered stronger still by the impression that the measure is not adopted so much as a boon to the old men who have fought, as for a stimulus to recruit new ones. "It's a very good way, no doubt," says Johnny, to raise more than 1000 recruits a week; but I wish they would put the money in our pockets." That this is a measure of expediency rather than one intended to reward courage is rendered more apparent by the fact that the officers are shut out from a share in it. Nothing, indeed, can be more unpardonable than the manner in which the officers on active service are treated by the Government. Here are a number of meritorious men who have toiled for months under the fire of the enemy, in every variety of a fatal climate, threatened by virulent diseases of every kind. Their solitary advantage is speedy promotion; but that is for the lucky ones who are spared, or whose interest is great. Why should they be excluded from a benefit which is extended to the lower ranks? But this is not the only grievance. Whilst these officers are toiling, and many of them laying down their lives for the service of their country, an army of Turks is in course of formation at Constantinople whose officers are to enjoy double pay, Italian allowances—advantages of every sort, in fact, which are denied to the regular service. This Turkish Contingent will doubtless act admirably when it comes into the field; but in the meanwhile why, in the name of common sense, should it be so favoured? It may be urged that the officers of the Turkish Contingent are drawn chiefly from the Indian service, where it is customary to give large pay and much comfort whilst in the field. Such officers would refuse to serve unless they received their habitual reward. But, in the first place, all the officers in the new corps are not from the Indian service; and even were it so, the objections which are now made should have been foreseen before the Contingent was raised, or measures taken to make the officers of our regular army partakers of the same advantages as are granted to men not superior to them in attainments, and certainly less entitled in one respect—namely, that they have not, as a body, seen service in this war.

Nor are the feelings of our officers spared in other matters. They are neglected in more ways than one; and, strange as it may seem, there is no money at head quarters to pay them. It has been a common cry in the Camps that there is not a penny in the officers' pockets. There is one course open to those who have the means; but those who know what the Jew bankers at Camp charge for risk, change commission, and other additional expenses incidental to draughts on London, will see at what a price money is to be obtained at this moment in the Crimea. I am unable to ascertain the cause of the emptiness of the army chest, nor can I positively assert that specie is not to be had; but the truth is that the officers have not had any for a considerable time.

July 21, 1855.

Another week has elapsed without any considerable change in the relative positions of the armies, and it is needless to hazard conjectures as to when our Commanders will think fit to reopen fire against the *travaux*. The time has not been inactively spent. The Green-hill and Gordon's Batteries are gradually being deprived of their heavy guns, which are moved to the works in the advanced parallels. These works have become as perfect as art can make them; and, at the same time, daily progress is made in the covered ways that lead towards the town. Of these the most prominent are those which the French are pushing against the Malakoff, which can be seen with ease from the heights. The Russians do not let us proceed, however, without considerable annoyance of every kind to working parties, which they diligently shell, so that at night there is a continual succession of large flashes; whilst the hollow projectiles, with their lighted fuses turning round and round, are visible as they describe their parabolas, and look to the eye like glittering balls thrown up by a gigantic juggler—falling, perpetually to be thrown up into the air with untiring agility. Our plans since the failure of the 18th have been rather to harass the enemy by mortar practice than to damage the works by direct firing. The investment of the port will be complete when the French have entirely armed their waterside battery on the extreme right, which must infallibly be effective against the shipping moored in the harbour. The foremost of these have, since I wrote, retired to a greater distance, but cannot be moved any further than they are at present on account of the boom of sunken ships near which they lie. A few small steamers still remain in-shore in a position to shell the Malakoff.

The Russians—who have been forced to abandon some of their works in the vicinity of the White-works and Mamelon, now the Lavarande and Brancion Redoubts—determined, on the morning of the 17th, to destroy the advanced parallels finished by the French towards Malakoff, and they issued in force out of the Black Battery. They were met by a heavy fire from our allies, and some pretty mortar practice was made against the Russian works. The Russians, repulsed at the first onslaught, came to the charge a second time, but in twenty minutes after the commencement of the affair they were finally driven out, and forced into their works with the loss of many killed and wounded, and one officer and five men taken. An officer of the 42nd, whilst looking on from one of our trenches, was killed by a round-shot.

The French cavalry in advance have made reconnaissances in advance of Baidar, and penetrated through the Phoros pass. The Tartars there said there were no Russian soldiers on that side, or between Phoros and Yalta. It will be interesting to know this fact, and reconnoitre the head waters of the Belbec which trends in a very curious way to the northward, and may offer us future facilities.

Great numbers of pack-horses arrive here daily, and their number will soon reach 10,000. Of these the Turks have already received 2000, which they are to feed. The want of men is now seriously felt, and those who are here, having too much work, are not improved by having to attend to more than they care for. The same cause acts on the cavalry, where there are more men than horses, and the service suffers from the want of foresight in providing them. Should no movement into the field be contemplated, we shall again winter here. Indeed, as large dépôts are to be formed before the end of September, when the weather renders the Black Sea dangerous, there is reason to suppose that whatever may be the future operations of the Allies, a considerable force will still remain here. It is not uninteresting to note, therefore, that the Croats are detached to improve the road between Balaklava and Kadikoi. Thence to the front it is still the same unmetalled way as we suffered from last winter.

Omer Pacha and suite left Balacava for Constantinople, where he had been preceded by Skender Pacha. There were rumours about of disagreements between the former and General Pelissier. These I can neither confirm nor deny.

It is also said, in some quarters very positively, that General Simpson has resigned. This is denied by many, although it is generally said that the Commander-in-Chief is anxious to be discharged of the burden of his command.

General Daeres is ill of cholera. General Filder has found his health fail, and goes to England. We hear that he is succeeded by Sir John Macdonald, already known as having formed part of one of the commissions sent out here.

Since I wrote respecting the increase of pay, proposed by Lord Panmure, the news of a change in the measure has been received and gives much more satisfaction.

THE SORTIE ON THE 15TH JULY.

The letters received from the Crimea by last mail contain particulars of the sortie made against the advancing camp of our allies on the Malakoff hill, on the morning of the 15th ult. The attack was preceded by the usual characteristic yell of the Russians, but this cry was only raised at the moment of coming upon the troops covering the working parties. The night was dark, and a high wind was blowing; and to these circumstances it was owing that the approach of the enemy was not previously ascertained. The shout was sufficiently loud to be heard at some of the pickets in front of the Camp, and appeared to proceed from a large body of troops. A sharp fire of musketry lasted about half an hour, and then subsided; about an hour afterwards, another fusillade was noticed in the same direction, but speedily terminated.

The explanation given by the French is, that the enemy came suddenly and in great force upon the working parties before the latter had time to make the necessary arrangements to meet the attack. Hence some confusion ensued at first, and the French, not without a severe struggle however, had to retire to the next covert way. At the time of the sortie our allies were connecting some small ambuscades which they had thrown up in a line in front of their advanced trench. These being joined together, and a communication established with the trench behind, the third branch of the zigzag advancing up the Malakoff hill would be completed. The object of the Russians was to arrest the progress of this work, and destroy what had been already done.

As soon, therefore, as the French had retired, the enemy commenced levelling the parapets, and filling up the trench. In the mean time the French, being joined by their reserves, formed again for the attack, and at a given signal rushed suddenly upon the Russians. The latter were taken unawares. A considerable number had laid aside their arms and accoutrements and were busily engaged in shovelling down the parapets. After firing one volley, the French charged with the bayonet, and a precipitate retreat of the Russians followed. A large quantity of arms and appointments were left in the hands of the French.

The commencement of the attack occurred between one and two o'clock. The enemy did not attempt to renew it. In the course of the night the French not only repaired the mischief done by the enemy, but extended the trench considerably. The Russian loss is said to have been very severe compared with that of the French, numbers having fallen in the second charge. One officer and several men were taken prisoners. The French loss in killed is reported as one officer and thirty men.

OFFICIAL DESPATCHES.

DESPATCHES FROM GENERAL SIMPSON.

War Department, July 30, 1855.

Lord Panmure has this day received two despatches and their enclosures, of which the following are copies, addressed to his Lordship by Lieutenant-General Simpson, Commanding her Majesty's forces in the East:—

Before Sebastopol, July 17, 1855.

My Lord,—I have the honour to submit for your Lordship's information the accompanying letters from Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell, 90th Regiment: the one relating to his personal services, and the other to those of a party of the 55th Regiment on the occasion of the capture of the Quarries in front of the Redan, on the night of the 7th ultimo.

With regard to Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell's own services I think it right to inform your Lordship that I find, upon inquiry, that the charge of holding the Quarries on the night in question, and of repelling the repeated attacks of the enemy, was confided to that officer after he had led the assault, and was, in fact, a separate and detached command from that of Colonel Shirley, who acted as general of the day in the trenches of the right attack; the despatch of the late Field Marshal Lord Raglan has already shown how admirably that duty was performed by the brave men who were under the immediate direction of Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell.

The Lieutenant-Colonel's letter, recording the good conduct of the party of the 55th Regiment, speaks for itself. I have, &c., JAMES SIMPSON, Lieutenant-General Commanding.

Camp, Light Division, July 13, 1855.

Sir,—The despatch of the late lamented Field Marshal Lord Raglan, of 9th June, mentions that I commanded the storming party on the Quarries on the evening of the 7th June. May I beg most respectfully that you will bring it to the notice of Lieutenant-General Simpson, Commanding the Forces, that I not only had the honour of commanding the storming party, but that, having been twice wounded in the assault, I retained the sole undivided command in the Quarries, not only of the original attacking force and supports, but of all reinforcements, during the whole night, until relieved at seven a.m., on the 8th. The despatches must have explained already that the enemy made several desperate efforts during the night, to regain the works, and that on three occasions overpowering numbers succeeded in re-entering, but were on all occasions, driven back at the point of the bayonet. The entire night was, indeed, one continued struggle for this position, the fatigue and anxiety of which I have never recovered from. When Lord Raglan's despatch was completed, I have reason to suppose his Lordship had not received the details, as my own report to Colonel Shirley, general of the trenches, was unavoidably delayed in consequence of my wounds, and not being able to write. In justice to myself, conscious of having performed an important duty, to the best of my ability, and successfully, I now respectfully submit this statement to the Commander of the Forces, with the hope that he may be pleased to have my services on this occasion mentioned and particularised. At present, several officers have equal praise in the camp who were not in the Quarries at all. I have, &c.,

ROB. CAMPBELL, Lieut.-Col., Commanding 90th Light Infantry. Lieut.-Col. Brownrigg, Military Secretary, &c., &c., Head-quarters.

Camp, July 10.

Sir,—I have the honour of forwarding the enclosed letter for the consideration of the Lieutenant-General Commanding the Forces; but I beg to remark that, in my report of the occurrences on the night of the 7th of June, I took care to mention the services of the 55th Regiment, which appear to have been overlooked in the late Field Marshal's despatch.

I have, &c.,

H. SHIRLEY,

Colonel 88th Foot, commanding in the trenches on the night of 7th June. The Military Secretary, Head-quarters.

Before Sebastopol, July 8, 1855.

Sir,—I beg to draw your attention to the inadvertent omission, in Lord Raglan's despatch of the 9th June, of any mention of the 55th Regiment, as sharing in the attack and defence of the Quarries, during the night of the 7th June. I did not mention the regiment in my report, as they were not given over to me as part of the attacking party; but the officer commanding the party informs me that they, being originally told off as a working party, were directed by the Engineer (Captain Browne) to throw down their tools, and that they were moved by you as a support to Egerton's Rifle-pit, whence they moved to support the attacking party, and did good service in clearing the Russian trenches, and in the defence throughout the night, as their severe list of killed and wounded attests (53 out of 160); many of the former not being found until the flag of truce, when their bodies were found in the trenches they had gained.

The officer in command of the party, Captain (now Major) Cure, reports that the gallant conduct of Lieutenant Stone, who was killed at the head of his men, charging the Russians in their trench with the bayonet, and of Captain Elton, who, with a small body of men, formed a covering party on the right to those who were reversing the trench, is particularly deserving of mention, as is that also of Lieutenants Scott and Williams, who were most active in performing their duties.

Hoping that the Commander of the Forces may deem this statement sufficiently satisfactory to enable him to move in the subject,

I have, &c., ROBT. CAMPBELL,

Lieutenant-Colonel, 90th Regiment, Commanding Assault. To Colonel Shirley, Commanding 2nd Brigade, Light Division.

Before Sebastopol, July 17, 1855.

My Lord,—I have the honour to transmit herewith the nominal and numerical return of casualties in this army, from the 13th to the 15th instant; also the weekly report of the Inspector-General of Hospitals, which will be

most gratifying to your Lordship, as showing a steady decrease in the number of cases of spasmodic cholera.

I have but little to report to your Lordship. Our siege operations are steadily progressing.

Last night, about eleven o'clock, a sortie was made by the enemy on the right of the French works in front of the Mamelon; the cannonade and fire of musketry was exceedingly heavy, but I have not as yet been made acquainted with any particulars of the attack.

I regret to have to announce to your Lordship the death of Captain Rowland A. Fraser, of the 42nd Highlanders, a very talented young officer, who was killed in the trenches of the right attack, last night, by the splinter of a shell.

I have, &c.,

JAMES SIMPSON,

Lieutenant-General Commanding.

Head-quarters, Camp before Sebastopol, July 17, 1855.

Sir,—In transmitting the weekly state of sick, I have much satisfaction in bringing to report to you a continued improvement in the health of the army. There has been an increase of fever cases this week, but a marked decrease in both the frequency and severity of bowel affections.

I have, &c.,

JOHN HALL,

Inspector-General of Hospitals.

To Lieutenant-General Simpson, Commanding in Chief.

RETURN OF OFFICERS, NON-COMMISSIONED OFFICERS, AND PRIVATES KILLED AND WOUNDED FROM THE 13TH TO THE 15TH JULY, 1855, INCLUSIVE.

KILLED.

July 13.—34th Foot: Private William Ward. July 14.—1st Battalion, Scots Fusilier Guards: Private James Kidd. 43th Foot: Private Thomas Meakins. July 15.—21st Foot: Private Thomas Jones.

WOUNDED.

Captain Thomas Roper, 47th Foot, slightly. July 15. July 13.—1st Battalion, 1st Foot: Private William Howard, slightly. 9th: Private Michael Pittman, severely. 13th: Private John Tracy, severely. 19th: Private Thomas Langwell, slightly. 54th: Private James Bowles, severely. 48th: Private Daniel Kelly, severely. 93rd: Corporal John Forbes, severely. Private John Fulton, slightly. July 14.—3rd Battalion, Grenadier Guards: Private Benjamin Southers, dangerously. 1st Battalion, Scots Fusilier Guards: Private William Scott, slightly. 19th Foot: Privates John Morrow, slightly; Thomas McMahon, slightly; Patrick Barley, severely. 31st: Private James Hill, slightly. 47th: Privates John Spalding, severely; Thomas Barber, slightly. 4th: Private John Somerville, severely. 59th: Privates Thomas Manzin, James Wade, slightly. 59th: Corporal Henry Johnston. Private Henry Osborn, slightly. July 15.—19th Foot: Private Hugh Lavery, severely. John Rozan, slightly. 31st: Private John Devoy, severely. 4th: Privates Michael Carey, William Dilly, severely; James Cook, slightly; William Keenahan, dangerously. 39th: Corporal Thomas O'Miley, Private Robert Stubb, slightly. 47th: Private Joseph Hildbrook, slightly. 8th: Private Daniel Cary, severely. 55th: Corporal Henry Claypole, severely. 2nd Battalion, 1st Brigade: Private James Underwood, slightly.

ROYAL NAVAL BRIGADE.—Wounded, July 13: John Yowson, A.B., Leander, severely. Killed, July 15: James Upton, A.B., Rodney.

War Department, July 31.

Lord Panmure has this day received a despatch and its enclosure, of which the following are copies, addressed to his Lordship by Lieutenant-General Simpson, Commanding her Majesty's Forces in the East.

Before Sebastopol, July 21, 1855.

My Lord,—I have great pleasure to inform your Lordship that the health of the army has greatly improved; cholera has nearly disappeared, and although more sickness has appeared amongst the officers, it is not of that character to cause uneasiness.

With reference to the exterior army, the Russians hold their strong position on the McKenzie Heights, extending by Aitodor to Abat, with advanced posts by Chouli, Orenbush, and the strong range of heights overhanging Urkusta and the valley of Balidar. It is reported they have also a force of artillery and infantry at Alupka. The French have pushed forward the whole of their cavalry into the Valley of Balidar, resting upon the Sardinians, upon the left bank of the Souhai river, and communicating with the French upon the Tchernaya, whilst the high ridge protecting Balacava is guarded by the Turkish army.

I purpose sending four squadrons of light cavalry into the Valley of Balidar to-morrow, to protect and afford convoys to the commissariat for the purpose of bringing forage and supplies for the use of the army.

Major-General Markham arrived on the 19th instant, and, agreeably to the instructions conveyed in your Lordship's telegraphic message, I have appointed him to the command of the Second Division.

Sir Stephen Lushington, K.C.B., having been promoted to the rank of Admiral, has been relieved in the command of the Naval Brigade by Captain the Honourable Henry Keppel. I take this opportunity of recording my sense of the ability and zeal with which he has throughout conducted his arduous and responsible situation of commanding the Naval Brigade, which has rendered such excellent service in our batteries.

I beg also to report to your Lordship that Mr. Commissary-General Filder has been obliged to relinquish the command of his important department, and will have to return to England upon the recommendation of a medical board.

I enclose the list of casualties to the 19th instant. I have, &c.,

JAMES SIMPSON, Lieut.-General Commanding.

The Lord Panmure, &c., &c., &c.

DESPATCH FROM THE BALTIC.

Admiralty, July 30, 1855.

A despatch, of which the following is an extract, has been received at the Admiralty from Rear-Admiral the Hon. R. S. Dundas, Commander-in-Chief of her Majesty's ships and vessels in the Baltic:—

Duke of Wellington, at Nargen, July 23, 1855.

I have the satisfaction of transmitting a copy of a report which I have received from Captain Yelverton, detailing the circumstances under which, with the *Cossack*, *Magicienne*, and *Ruby* in company, he has again availed himself of an opportunity to attack, with good effect, a position occupied by troops of the enemy, assembled in considerable force, for the defence of Frederickscham; and I have much pleasure in submitting to your Lordships this additional proof of the zeal and gallantry of the officers and men under his orders, and of their good conduct, especially of Mr. H. G. Hale, mate, and the crew of the *Ruby* gun-boat. I have, &c., (Signed) R. S. DUNDAS.

Arrogant, off the Crops Islands, July 22, 1855.

Sir,—I have the honour to inform you that, on leaving the fleet, I proceeded off the Island of Hogland, where I was joined by the *Cossack*, *Magicienne*, and *Ruby* gun-boat.

Information having reached me that the enemy had sent 3000 troops to Frederickscham, and were making every possible exertion to put the place in a state of defence, I lost no time in getting there.

I arrived on the afternoon of the 20th, and would have attacked them that evening, but that the *Ruby* got on shore in examining the intricate channel leading to the town, and it was too late to take the ships in by the time she was off.

Early the following morning I succeeded in getting the ship up to the town, and at 9.40 we opened fire. After an engagement of an hour, the enemy ceased fire, and abandoned their guns, some of which were dismounted.

If I judge by the number of men we saw them carrying away on stretchers, they must have suffered severely.

I am happy to say the injury on our side has been trifling, though our hull bears evidence of the precision with which they fired, but generally speaking their shot fell short.

I regret to say that one man belonging to the *Ruby* was dangerously wounded by a round-shot.

I must not allow this opportunity to pass without mentioning Mr. Hale, mate, commanding the *Ruby* gun-boat, who, together with his gallant crew, deserve the highest praise for the way in which they worked and fought their long gun, so close to this, that I had an opportunity of observing the precision of their fire.

One portion of a suburb caught fire, and was destroyed, but I am happy to say the town remained uninjured, owing to the strict observance of an order I gave to fire on the fort only.

I beg to enclose a list of casualties.

I have, &c.,

H. R. YELVERTON, Captain.

Rear-Admiral the Hon. R. S. Dundas, &c.

WOUNDED.—Arrogant: John Feast, A.B., slightly. *Ruby*: Edward Quinn, A.B., dangerously; William Brandon, ord., severely.

GENERAL PELISSIER ON THE PROGRESS OF THE SIEGE.

The French Minister of War has received the following report from the Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the East:—

Crimea, July 17.

M. le Maréchal,—For a considerable period the besieged refrained from sorties, merely reconnoitring our works of approach with small bodies of men. In the night of the 14th and 15th they attempted a vigorous stroke against the left of our works, advanced in front of the Malakoff, and, as you have already been informed by telegraph, failed.

We had crowned the quarries situated between the Brancion Redoubt (Mamelon) and the Malakoff Tower with a strong gabionnade, and had thus formed a continuous line, the right of which is guarded on the side of the Carénage Ravine by a strong *place d'armes*, while the left is well defended by good ambuscades near the Karabelnaia Ravine. A flying ambuscade, occupied only by some sharpshooters lodged in pits, had been formed at the extreme left, in order to draw off the fire of the enemy.

This line, of which the central part of defence is the Brancion Redoubt, was occupied on the right by Lieut.-Colonel Granchette, of the 49th of the Line, with three battalions of his regiment, having the 4th Chasseurs à Pied as a reserve.

Lieut.-Colonel de Chabron, of the 86th, commanded the left, composed of a battalion of his regiment and the 91st of the Line. Forty sharpshooters, who occupied the ambuscade on the left, received as a support 200 picked men of the 91st Regiment, under the orders of Commandant Teiller. The 1st battalion of the 100th placed in the parallel, was to act according as it might be wanted on the right or the left. Finally the Karabelnaia Ravine was strongly occupied in rear by a battalion from each of the two regiments of the Grenadiers of the Imperial Guard and by a working party of 200 belonging to the 100th of the Line.

The commencement of the night, which was cloudy, and in the absence of the moon dark, was marked by no particular incident, but towards one in the morning a considerable sortie against the English lines was made without result. Half an hour afterwards a Russian column of five or six battalions advanced from the bottom of the Karabelnaia Ravine and debouched on our left. Our sharpshooters of the flying gabionnade fell back according to the orders previously given for such a case, and gave this alarm. They had scarcely done so when the Russians made the attack with loud hurrahs, opening a close and well-sustained musketry fire. They were received in good time by a fire equally energetic, and were unable with all their exertions to get at our works. For half an hour they renewed the attempt, always without success, and at last, crushed by our fusillade and the well-directed fire of our batteries, they thought fit to retreat. They carried off their killed and wounded, but abandoned before our gabionnade, muskets, articles of equipment, and five of their killed, among whom was one officer.

The enemy's loss must have been large. Ours, happily, is small, for in twenty-four hours' service, the combat included, the *Mottierouge* division had lost but 20 killed and 94 wounded. These excellent results are due to the good arrangements of Brigadier-General Ulrich, who commanded in the trenches; and to the vigour of Lieut.-Colonel de Chabron and Commandant Teiller, both of them excellent officers.

I have, at the last moment, received from General Bisquet the news of a new sortie which the Russians made last night. The enemy, having attempted in vain to stay our approaches before Malakoff on the left, have endeavoured to drive us back on the right. They were repulsed in the most brilliant manner by General Canrobert's division, on service in the Victoria attack, as well as by a part of the service battalions of the Guard.

As evening set in General Vinoy, who commanded in the trenches, thought he perceived some movements of the enemy towards Malakoff. In fact the Russians had prepared two sorties—one a false attack against our left, the other the true attack on our right. Towards midnight the Russians advanced with loud hurrahs. The efforts on our left were soon discontinued, but the sorties on our right, made from the Little Redan, were of importance; the enemy charged our ambuscades three several times. These ambuscades were occupied by a company of Grenadiers of the 20th of the Line, to which had been added some *Zouaves* of the Guard. On the first attack the troops, aided by the *Travailleurs* of the 52nd of the Line and some Sappers, valiantly resisted without giving ground, and drove the Russians back into the place under the fire of their musketry and a shower of shot from field-pieces belonging to the Battery No. 30.

Expecting a new attack, General Vinoy had disposed his reserves, sustained by a detachment of *Zouaves* of the Guard, sent by General Bissac. This attack was not long delayed; the Russians arrived, but were received so vigorously, that they had to fall back, leaving several of their men on the ground.

A third time the enemy returned to the charge, with no more success, and at last definitively gave up to this small but precious battle-field. Commandant Cardanne, Captain Dufau, Lieut. Chazotte, and Captain Segretain, displayed the most brilliant valour.

As on the former occasion, these of our batteries which had a good view of the ground contributed greatly to our success by the sureness and rapidity of their fire. The artillery of the English batteries near us failed not, as always, to render efficient assistance by its well-directed and vigorous fire, sending a great number of projectiles into the Malakoff.

In proportion as the enemy gave way, the artillery of the place and that of the batteries on the other side of the roadstead was brought into play, and at the close of the combat its fire was very intense. Notwithstanding this fierce cannonade and a compact fire of musketry, our losses are not considerable, while the enemy must have several hundred men *hors de combat*. In twenty-four hours we lost 23 killed and 77 wounded; among the latter, I regret to say, are Colonel Adam, of the 27th (ball in the left shoulder), and Commandant Bousquet (ball above the knee).

In these two combats all have done their duty.

Nothing remarkable has taken place on other points of our attack. The efforts of the enemy do not interrupt our works, except during the actual combat; we resume them immediately after, and they are pushed forward with activity and perseverance. PELISSIER.

THE TURKISH ARMY IN THE CRIMEA.—During the last week the

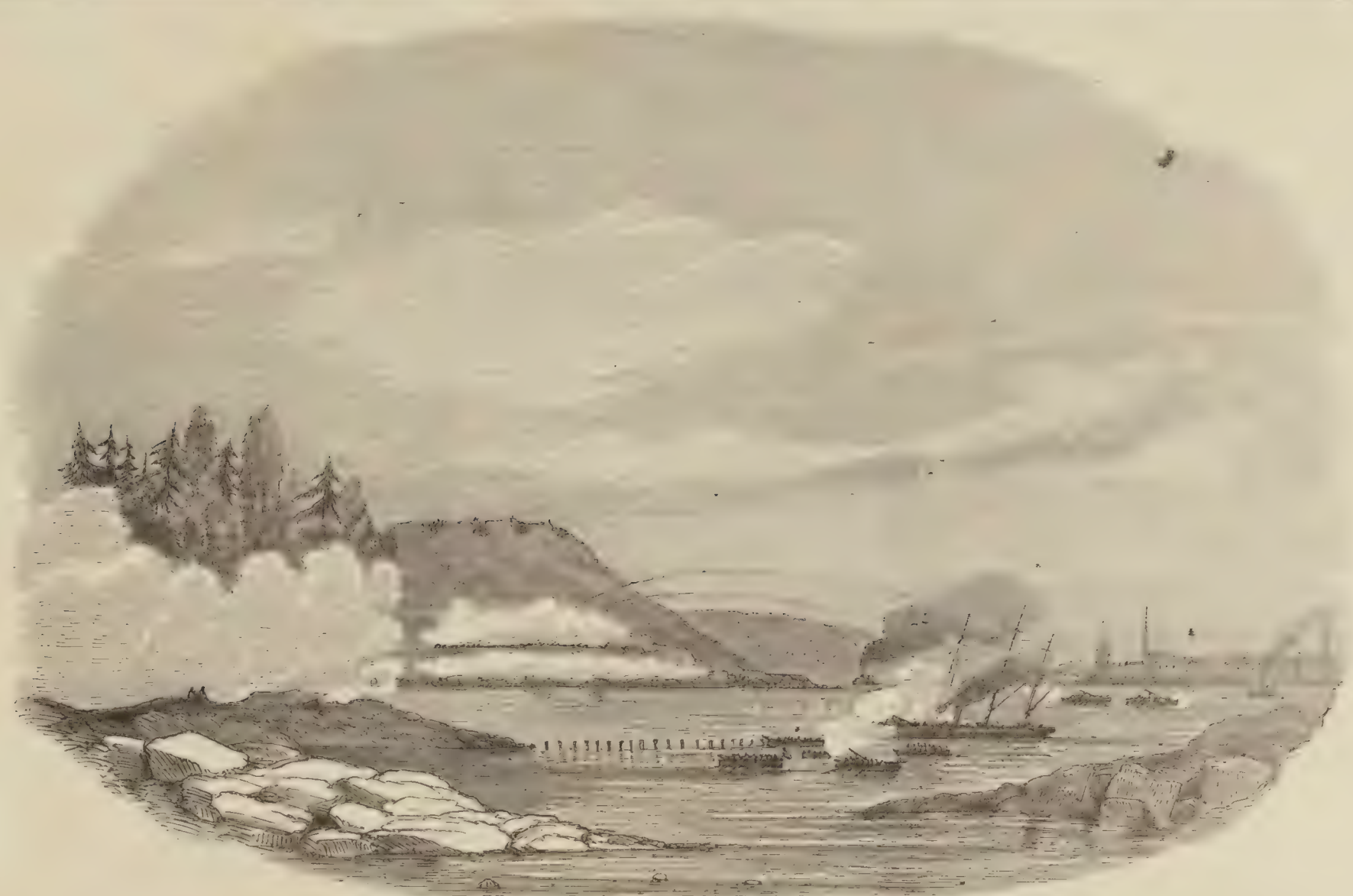
Turks had had a time of thorough Eastern repose; no fighting or marching; not even *tahib* making. There was, indeed, a stirring individual employed in the *Elat Major* who thought one of the hills incomplete without at least a small and neat *tahib* (fortification); but he was overruled, and the time of Kef was not desecrated by digging. Although not so inviting as the pleasant valley where they were last encamped, the position of the Turks, which extends from the Marine Heights to the entrance of the valley of Yarnovka on one side, and from Kemana down to the hamlet of Khout on the other, partly overlooking the valley of the Tchernaya, and partly the bold cliffs near Cape Ala and the sea both sea, is not at all a badly-chosen spot for silent contemplation and Eastern reverie. Except now and then in the dead silence of night, not even the distant report of the mighty siege guns can reach us; while the presence of the French cavalry in the vale of Balidar removes all apprehension of a possible attack of the Russians in our front. Thus we sit, safe as in Abraham's bosom, following lazily with half opened eyes the silvery lines which the busy steamers leave behind them, or speculating on the chances of a breeze while contemplating the flapping sails of the sailing vessels bound for the south. In the evening the melancholy notes of some *Armenian* dirge or the low sounds of some "turky" (a kind of reed pipe of the most primitive construction) lull us in a peaceful slumber. This sleepy existence, which on the lovely shores of the Bosphorus or in the blooming valley of Damascus may become positive enjoyment, takes, in a camp supposed to be before the enemy, and waiting in all the comforts which real Eastern repose presupposes, a negative character, and becomes more a want of excitement than an enjoyment of repose—a state of body and mind which reminds one of the description which the German poet Heine gives of Aix-la-Chapelle, when he says, the dogs seem to ask you to give them a kick that they may amuse themselves. The only beings in the Turkish Camp who seem to be exempt from this state of inanimation are the flies and the regimental bands. The humming and buzzing of the flies and squeaking clarionets of the Turks lay like the place of the sweet voice of the nightingales of Balidar. They are for us the harbingers of rosy-fingered morn. They sound the reveille for the Turkish Camp and dispel the sweet morning dreams. Both are equally obstinate and merciless, and no thickness of your mosquito-curtain, or of your tympanum can save you from them. As for the flies, it seems as if the Crimea was smitten with the fourth plague of Egypt. The oldest inhabitant does not remember ever to have seen anything like it, and not only the Camp, but even the villages a good distance from the Camp are infected with myriads of flies. The Turkish musicians, although neither so numerous nor so far spread, are not less troublesome. However, both serve as a corrective against the drowsiness and sleepiness which otherwise would overwhelm the Turkish army.—Letter from the Turkish Camp, July 21.

A BURNING DAY IN JULY.—To-day there has been a veritable July sun; not a breath of air has been stirring. Over the Black Sea hangs the mist which always appears when the sun pours down his rays with more than usual power. Firing slack this morning, but towards afternoon it has increased considerably, and at the present moment there is a sharp cannonade kept up from the Malakoff, and now and then a volley of musketry announces that the skirmishers are at work. We have constructed another battery of two Lancaster guns to the left and in advance of the 21-gun Battery. Somewhat more to the left a battery of six guns had been raised to fire on the shipping, but it having been found that the position was too low for the purpose, mortars have been substituted, and the battery will, no doubt, open in a few days. The Lancasters have not yet been mounted, but will probably be in position to-morrow. The health of the men is still excellent, and their spirits do not in the least suffer by the length and wearisomeness of the siege. The summer is cool, and as the Russians of late make very few sorties, the nights are passed without much hardship in the trenches. When formed in marching order to descend the oft-trodden ravines, there is neither despondency nor unwillingness: the laugh and the joke accompany their steps, their air is brisk and alert. How different from their appearance in the gloomy season of last December! The noise of skittles is to be heard on every side, and the regimental bands, with sadly diminished numbers indeed, but still effective for amusement, give the various popular airs to which we are accustomed at home. Cathcart's hill is every evening the lounge of hundreds of idlers, who, stretched at length on the dried grass, or sitting on the piles of stones which inclose many an honoured grave, look down on the beleaguered city, and watch the flashes which burst forth from Mamelon, Malakoff, or Redan with a lazy indifference.—Letter from the Camp, July 20.

PROVIDENTIAL ESCAPE.—A case of somnambulism occurred at Ferrybridge, Yorkshire, last week, from which a boy had a very narrow escape with his life. It appears that on Friday evening the family had retired to bed at the usual time, and about twelve o'clock the little boy's sister heard her brother's voice, apparently in distress, in the adjoining room. She immediately got up and proceeded to his room, where she found him suspended outside the window, with his hands holding on to the stone sill, and in great danger of falling to the ground. The sister, with the assistance of the servant-girl, extricated the little boy from his dangerous situation, the other members of the family being all the time asleep. Had the boy lost his hold for a moment, he must have fallen to the ground and probably killed on the spot. He did not recover from his dream until after his sister had lifted him with safety into the room.



BURIAL AT SEA.—SKETCHED BY J. W. CARMICHAEL.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)



THE GUN-BOAT "RUBY," AND BOATS OF "THE ARROGANT" AND "MAGICIENNE" RECONNOITRING THE STRAIT OF STRALSUND.

RECONNAISSANCE OF THE STRAIT OF STRALSUND.

On the evening of Friday, the 13th ult., Captain Yelverton, commanding the detached squadron in the Gulf of Viborg, made a reconnaissance of the Strait of Stralsund, leading to Viborg, in the gun-boat *Ruby*, accompanied by the armed boats of the *Arrogant* and *Magicienne*. This operation was stoutly resisted by the enemy, who kept up a very heavy fire in the boats engaged on sounding, as well as on the *Ruby*, from an earthwork erected on the left bank, and from two steamers and some large

row gun-boats. The reconnaissance was effectually accomplished, notwithstanding the severity of the fire, which was returned with admirable effect by the boats' howitzers, rockets, and the long gun of the *Ruby*, with much slaughter to the enemy. The passage was found to be completely blocked up with piles and masses of granite; and some unfinished earthworks on either side showed the apprehensions entertained of the insecurity of the defences. We regret having to record the loss of Mr. Story, midshipman, and one seaman killed and nine wounded.

BURIAL AT SEA.—A SKETCH IN THE BALTIC.

To those who have never witnessed a ceremony of this nature a few details may be acceptable. It is, we believe, the custom in the Navy always to inter the dead on shore whenever opportunity offers; but when the ship is at sea, or lying off an enemy's coast, where a landing is impracticable, the following routine is usually observed:—Immediately after death the body is sewed up in a hammock, together with two 68 lb. shot, and then placed between two guns on the main-deck, to await the burial. This



"THE CESAR."—"HANDS PIPING TO BATH."—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

PARIS GUIDES.—There is one class of avocations in Paris which is found to be in extremes, either the most agreeable or the most annoying, according as they are exercised by regular professors or by amateurs. I allude to the office of the *cicerone* who serves as the guide to strangers visiting this gay and fascinating city for the first time; and, taking everything into consideration, it is one of the best trades *going* at the present moment. I say nothing of those whose good nature, facility of disposition, of amiable weakness induces them to undertake the charge of escorting repeating strangers as whosoever there is anything worth seeing; and he who has not visited Paris for two or three years, or even less, will be astonished at the changes which have taken place, and will find subjects for admiration at every step. None ought to be more grateful to the fashion than the class of people known as *visiteurs de Paris*, who are permanently attached to the principal hotels, or who have only bad rank as *seigneurs* attached to the staff of these establishments, for it is, and promises to be, for some time to come, the source of a rich harvest, from the expenditure of thousands of pleasure, destined to bring up to Paris that vast population of the provinces, or the emigrants from foreign countries, at moderate charges, you meet each day canvases of men and women, whose varied and often picturesque costume betrays their origin. And where no outward sign, at least none capable of detection by the superficial observer, gives evidence of the fact, you may at once recognise the provincial by the naïve astonishment with which he gazes on the various objects that meet his eyes. The dandy of the dandy, the “*phés* of fashion” of some provincial city, the *bourgeois elegant* of Toulouse or Marseilles, the Beau monde of Bordeaux or Lyons, is at once discernible in the excessive flurry of his attire, and there is not a *bonnie* of the *Chaussée d’Antin* whose quick eye will not at the first glance discover the provincial *hale* in the extravagant amplitude of her robe, or the extraordinary mannerism of the bonnet which shrinks from the back of the head which it scarcely touches. These are among the visitors who are the delight of the Paris guides, into whose hands they entirely deliver their lives, and whose necessities as well as simplicity is too often imposed upon.—*Paris Correspondent of the Times.*

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

Lord BROUGHAM moved for certain returns in continuation of a former return on the Criminal Law.

The Lord CHANCELLOR did not oppose the motion, and after a short discussion the returns were ordered.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

LIMITED LIABILITY BILL.

The House of Commons, at the morning sitting, was occupied in Committee with the details of the Limited Liability Bill.

ITALIAN LEGION.

Lord GODERICH inquired of the Government whether there was any ground for a statement which had appeared in the newspapers within the last day or two, that it was the intention of the Government to form an Italian legion? He had understood that the Government had previously stated that it was not their intention to admit Italians into the Foreign Legion.

Mr. PEELE said, that at one time it was not the intention of the Government to enlist Italians, but that now it was determined that they should be admitted as part of the Foreign Legion.

BUSINESS OF THE SESSION.

Lord PALMERSTON called the attention of the House in the evening to the state of the public business, and, observing that there were reasons upon which he would not dwell why the Session should be closed by the 14th or 15th of next month (following the precedent of last Session), moved that on Tuesday orders of the day have precedence of notices of motion. The motion was agreed to.

CLAIMS OF OFFICERS.

On the order for going into a Committee of Supply.

Admiral WALCOTT, in moving for a copy of a minute by the Board of Admiralty relating to the claims of certain officers to be recommended for the honour of the Bath, complained of injustice done to officers, himself included, who had been passed over.

The motion was seconded by Captain SCOBELL, and supported by Sir G. PEECE.

Sir C. WOOD said, the object of the motion, namely, that of forcing the Board of Admiralty to recommend to the Queen the grant of honours, was one which the House ought not to entertain. As he explained, unless the statutes of the order were altered, it would be impossible to recommend the gallant officer. He opposed the motion.

Lord J. MANNERS and Sir DE LACY EVANS supported the motion.

Lord PALMERSTON said, this was nothing more nor less than an appeal to the House of Commons from the Executive Government as to the grant of honours which ought to flow from the Crown. It was quite impossible to carry on the military and naval services if it was not left to the Crown, acting on the recommendation of its responsible Ministers, to determine who should or should not receive these honours. He hoped, therefore, that Admiral Walcott would be content with having brought his services and those of his brother officers before the House.

Lord HOTHAM suggested that in the arrangements respecting the new Order of Merit care should be taken that the regulations were intelligible. After some further discussion, the motion was negatived.

SALARIES OF SCOTCH SCHOOLMASTERS.

Mr. E. LOCKHART called attention to the inconvenience that would arise from the Act regulating the salaries of the parochial schoolmasters of Scotland being allowed to expire without further provisions to meet the exigencies of the case.

The Lord ADVOCATE gave explanations upon the subject, and stated that there was ample time for making the necessary provisions next Session.

CIVIL SERVICE ESTIMATES.

The House then went into Committee of Supply upon the Civil Service Estimates.

Various votes were agreed to, after discussion, and the CHAIRMAN reported progress.

THE SALE OF BEER BILL.

Mr. H. BERKELEY moved the second reading of the Sale of Beer, &c., Bill.

Mr. HORSFALL expressed his regret that the Committee had come to the decision upon which the bill was founded.

After some conversation, the bill was read a second time.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

THE ROYAL SOCIETY.

Lord BROUGHAM drew attention to the withdrawal of the grant of £1000 a year to the Royal Society. He contended there never had been in the history of this country anything like the amount of good produced by the expenditure of so small a sum as in this instance, for the judicious application of this moderate grant to the Royal Society had resulted in the greatest benefits to science and arts.

Earl GRANVILLE said that the state of the case of the Royal Society was this. In 1850 the society applied for a grant, which was given, but out of a fund particularly applicable to charitable purposes. This year the President wrote for a renewal of the grant, but the reply of the Lords of the Treasury was to the effect that, having received the application of the society, their Lordships were not aware that there had been any understanding that they should have an annual grant from the public funds; but he might say that the application would meet with serious and most favourable consideration from her Majesty's Government.

METROPOLITAN LOCAL MANAGEMENT BILL.

The Earl PORTESCU presented a petition from certain vestrymen and ratepayers of the parishes of St. Pancras and Marylebone, praying that the dissolution of the old vestries under the Metropolitan Local Management Bill may be uniform and simultaneous.

Their Lordships then went into Committee on the bill, and were for some time engaged in considering its details. The alterations were merely verbal and very unimportant.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

NEWSPAPER POSTAGE.

Mr. V. SCULLY called the attention of the House to the unsatisfactory state of the regulations regarding the transmission of newspapers to the British Colonies; the effect of which, he said, was very considerably to increase the expense of English newspapers to subscribers in Canada, Australia, and generally in the Colonies.

Mr. WILSON admitted that the recent regulations were not working very satisfactorily, and the Post-office authorities were now engaged in revising them, with a view to improvement.

THE COMMISSARIAT.

Mr. LABOUCHERE then called attention to the large additional estimate of two millions and a half which the House was soon about to ask for, for the Commissariat. He believed the House would cheerfully vote this estimate, large as it was; but, as he knew the control of the Commissariat had been recently transferred from the Treasury to the War Department, he was anxious to know whether any efficient control had been provided over its expenditure.

Mr. STAFFORD was very glad the right honourable gentleman had brought forward the question. It was now more than twelve months since the War Department had been reorganised, and yet to this hour the House had received no information respecting the details. The Commissariat in particular he feared was much neglected.

Colonel DENNE expressed the alarm which was felt by all military men at the systematic transfer which was now going on of all military offices to civilians.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said, as the Commissariat had been removed from his department, he could give no information as to details. He admitted the additional estimate was a large one, but it was to be remembered that the House and the country had insisted on the army being amply provided with supplies; and the Government had carried out their wishes. He did not know that any report was in existence upon the subject of this transfer of offices, or the details of the management; but if there was he should lay it before the House.

Sir F. BAKING thought that the transfer of the Commissariat to the War-office was too complete. To throw the management of the Colonial Commissariat, for instance, upon Lord Palmerston, was overloading that Secretary, while it could have nothing to do with the war. He thought the House ought at this period of the Session to leave the matter in the hands of the Executive, but he would strongly urge upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer the necessity of revising the whole of this subject during the recess.

Mr. MACARTNEY said it would be agreeable to the House and to the country to know whether the Chancellor of the Exchequer intended to propose new taxes to meet these additional estimates.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER said if it should please the House to agree to the Estimates it would then be his duty to explain to the House that they had sufficient ways and means to meet them. He would only remind the House at present that when he brought forward his Budget he took credit for a margin of more than three millions. That margin would not meet the whole deficiency, but when he proposed the Estimates he would show how the Government proposed to make up the difference.

The House then went into Committee of Supply.

COST OF COMMISSIONS.

On the vote of £100,000 for Civil Contingencies, a desultory conversation took place on various matters embraced in the vote.

Mr. MACARTNEY complained of the expense incurred by the various commissions that were issued from time to time.

Mr. MULLINS explained that he had been on more than one commission, but he had never received any emolument.

Mr. S. WORTLEY reminded the House that no member of the House could accept a paid commission without vacating his seat. He need hardly add that the only profit he was likely to derive from the commission on which he was now sitting was an accession to his stock of patience.

SCOTCH FISHERIES.

A vote of £14,000 to the Fishery Board of Scotland excited some discussion; the Government admitted that it was indefensible on its own merits, and promised to withdraw it for the future; with which understanding the vote was passed.

THE SLAVE-TRADE.

The vote of £12,000 for bounties to our seamen and for captured slaves led to a conversation, in the course of which Lord PALMERSTON stated that the slave-trade in Cuba had considerably diminished, as compared with its amount several years ago, though, perhaps, not so much as compared with the last two or three years.

THE NEW FOREIGN OFFICE.

On the vote of £90,000 for rebuilding the Foreign-office in Downing-street, Mr. BELL objected to the vote, on the ground that this was part of a large and magnificent plan, which would cost more than half a million of money. He wished to know if the consenting to this vote would not pledge the House to the larger plan?

Sir W. MOLESWORTH said the House would not be at all committed to the large plan by this vote. At the same time it was certain that the whole of the public offices in Downing-street were in a dilapidated condition, and it was intended to rebuild the whole. The present vote was intended to begin with rebuilding the Foreign-office, which was in a really dangerous condition.

Mr. BANKES thought the House would be committed by this vote to the larger plan, to which he had great objections. For instance, it was intended to have magnificent State apartments, where the Cabinet Ministers might entertain their friends. He did not see any necessity for this, and he hoped the House would not accede to the vote.

Sir F. BAKING concurred in the objections of Mr. Bankes, and thought that this of all times was not the time for spending money unnecessarily. The vote was for a portion of a plan which, if once begun, must be carried out, and it ought not to be commenced at the present time. He would, therefore, move that this vote be rejected.

Lord PALMERSTON defended the eligibility of the plan; but, at the same time he thought it desirable that Parliament should be consulted upon its propriety before it was finally adopted. He would therefore propose to take a vote only for the purchase of land, to which no one objected, and for incidental repairs, and would agree to reduce the vote from £90,000 to £40,000.

The vote, as reduced, was agreed to.

KAFFIR CIVILISATION.

The vote of £40,000 to promote civilisation and education among the Kaffirs gave rise to a discussion, in the course of which

Sir W. MOLESWORTH read an extract from Sir G. Grey, Governor at the Cape, recommending the plan as a means of gradually extinguishing future Kaffir wars. Sir William warmly recommended the scheme as an experiment well worth trying.

NORTH-WEST PASSAGE.

The vote of £10,000 for the discovery of the North-West Passage—£5000 to Captain McClure, and the other £5000 to other officers and crew of the *Investigator*, was voted amid general approbation.

Sir C. WOOD then moved a vote of £800 to the memory of Sir John Franklin and his crew. It was proposed to erect the monument at Greenwich Hospital.

The vote was, after a few words of approbation from Captain SCOBELL, agreed to.

THE SUPPLEMENTARY NAVY ESTIMATES—GUN-BOATS.

Sir C. WOOD proposed the Supplemental Estimates for the Navy. One item was for hemp, which was now supplied, he was glad to say, from Italy, and was of superior quality. They had also an offer from Hungary. Another item was for stores; but the principal item was for the building of gun-boats. When the war began we had not a single gun-boat; Sir James Graham built six, which had been very useful in the Sea of Azoff. Other vessels of a smaller size had also been built, and had been of great use. Still the number was very inadequate. About six or eight more had been built or bought. He proposed to double the number, and they, with their machinery, would cost about half a million.

On the vote being proposed, Mr. FRENCH brought again under the notice of the House the plans of Lord Dundonald, to the practicability of which he said Sir Charles Napier had pledged his professional reputation.

Sir G. PEECE said he believed the plan would be more dangerous to those who used it than to the enemy. He complimented the Admiralty on the able way in which they had conducted operations.

Captain SCOBELL urged the construction of rafts with guns mounted on them, such as were used with such success in the Black Sea, and one hundred of which would not cost more than a single gun-boat.

Mr. LINDSAY was glad to hear that the Admiralty had at last determined to build gun-boats; and he hoped that they would hear no more of such large line-of-battle ships as the *Marlborough*.

Admiral BERKELEY defended the large ships, which were necessary, he said, if for no other purpose, to protect the gun-boats and floating batteries.

After some further conversation the vote was agreed to, as were the other votes in that department.

Sir C. WOOD proposed a vote of a million and a half sterling for the transport service. They had conveyed to the Crimea the Sardinian Contingent; and they had acceded to a proposal made in the most generous manner by the French Emperor, who said—"We as a great military nation, are ready to furnish troops, if you a great naval nation, will furnish the ships to convey them." They had moved a large number of them accordingly, though the French had done much in that way themselves. Then they had moved about 11,000 Turkish troops. He reminded the House that it was quite necessary for the good of the service to keep a large number of transports at the seat of war. They had moved altogether since the beginning of the war 246,000 men, and 32,000 horses. He stated that, with a view to economise the transport service, he had determined to send an Admiral to Balaklava, who should have the whole of the transports there under his single control.

Mr. H. BROWN recommended the Government to adopt the French system with regard to transports, which was to pay the vessels for service instead of for time; and to give the captains a premium for making the voyage within a given time.

Mr. LINDSAY was glad his former statements were confirmed to some extent by Mr. Brown. He believed that the return as to the employment of transports, from which Sir Charles Wood had quoted, was full of errors.

After some further conversation the vote was agreed to, as was the vote for the Packet Service.

The Turkish Loan Bill was read a third time and passed amid general cheers.

The Customs Laws Consolidation Bill was read a third time and passed.

The report on the Limited Liability Bill was received without comment, and the Bill was ordered to be read a third time this day.

THE SALE OF BEER BILL.

On the motion for going into Committee on the Sale of Beer Bill, the Marquis of Blandford complained of the haste with which this bill was hurried through, and remarked that the evidence taken before the Committee was not complete. He thought that some further inquiry was necessary, and moved that the House resolve itself into Committee that day three months.

Mr. FRENCH seconded the amendment.

Mr. ALCOCK supported the bill, and said he wished the bill had allowed public-houses to be open from one o'clock on Sunday till midnight.

After some further conversation, Sir J. SHELLEY said the proposition of the Marquis of Blandford would be fatal to the bill; and, that the bill might be fairly discussed, he would move that the debate be now adjourned.

The Marquis of Blandford was willing to limit his amendment to postpone the Committee for a week.

Sir W. JOLLIFFE said it was clear if the bill were postponed now, there would be no legislation this Session, and the agitation and discontent that were sure to ensue would be more serious than the opening of public-houses.

Sir J. SHELLEY withdrew his amendment.

Mr. GLADSTONE thought, as a general rule, that they ought not to pass bills founded on evidence taken before a Select Committee, without having that evidence before them. At the same time this was a peculiar case, connected with the peace of the metropolis; and he, for one, would allow his vote to be very much guided by the opinion of the Government.

Lord PALMERSTON said the case was very simple, and most members were tolerably familiar with it, even though they had not the evidence before them. He would strongly urge the House to go into Committee.

Mr. VILLIERS, as one of the Committee, admitted that the inquiry was incomplete; but, on the other hand, it was not intended to repeal the act of last Session, but partially to modify it, by making the hours of opening between five and eleven, instead of between six and ten.

The House then divided, when the motion for going into Committee was carried by a majority of 63 to 10.

The House went into Committee, and the several clauses were agreed to, except the appeal clause, which was struck out.

The Marquis of Blandford moved that the bill be confined to the metropolitan districts.

Mr. H. BERKELEY opposed the amendment, which was eventually withdrawn.

The bill then went through Committee.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

UNION OF CONTIGUOUS BENEFICES BILL.

The House went into Committee on this bill.

The Marquis of Blandford moved that all references to the Church-building Commissioners should be omitted throughout the bill. He proposed to substitute "Parishes Commissioners" in lieu of Church-building Commissioners.

Mr. PELLATT thought the bill so objectionable in its principle that he moved that Mr. Fitzroy do leave the chair.

Mr. HADFIELD seconded the motion.

The Committee divided, when there appeared—For the adjournment, 12; against it, 62; majority, 50.

The Committee then resumed.

Sir G. GREY opposed the amendment of the Marquis of Blandford, inasmuch as he thought it very undesirable to multiply commissions. He thought also that it would be advisable to inquire into the duties of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, and other analogous commissions, and to constitute one general commission at the commencement of next Session.

Sir J. PAKINGTON looked upon that announcement as one of great importance, and hailed it with sincere satisfaction. He did not think, however, it should have any effect upon the question at present under consideration.

The amendment proposed by the Marquis of Blandford was, after some further discussion, agreed to.

Mr. CURTIS proposed to add to clause 3, that no rates shall continue to be levied on the inhabitants beyond what may suffice for the wants of the inhabitants when so united. He thought it would be very unfair when churches were removed from the City of London, that the inhabitants should be called upon to pay for other districts.

Sir J. PAKINGTON declined to accede to the proposal. The great principle on which the Ecclesiastical Commissioners had acted was, to make the superfluities of the Church in one part balance the deficiencies of another, and he could not see why the City of London should be an exception to this legislation.

Several hon. members having spoken, Mr. CURTIS withdrew his proviso, on the understanding that Sir J. PAKINGTON would attempt as far as possible to engraft some such provision upon the bill.

Clauses 9 inclusive were agreed to.

On clause 10 Mr. R. PHILLIMORE moved an amendment, the object of which was to prevent the sale of the rates of the churches, and the removal of the burial-grounds.

Sir J. PAKINGTON said he would not accede to the amendment, and asked the House to remember that the whole bill was founded upon a balance of considerations, and the question was whether the advantages were not so great as to counterbalance any slight objections however valid they might be.

Mr. W. WILLIAMS said there was a strong feeling in the City that the remains of the dead should not be disturbed, and that the spaces in which they were buried should be left open. He did not think it was right that these sacred places should be sold by auction for commercial purposes.

Sir G. GREY thought the right hon. gentleman would act wisely in deferring to private feelings upon this matter.

Sir J. PAKINGTON feared that the amendment would deteriorate from the value of the bill; but finding that the opinion of the Committee was against him he would defer to it.

The remaining clauses were agreed to with some amendments, and the Chairman reported the bill as amended to the House.

REPORT OF SUPPLY.

Mr. FITZROY brought up a report of yesterday's Committee of Supply, and the several votes were agreed to, with one exception, in which Mr. OTWAY objected to a vote of £300 as salary, and £1100 for travelling expenses to Otto Munder, a German artist, who has been employed for the purpose of travelling through foreign countries, and selecting pictures for the National Gallery. It was urged that this appointment was an insult to English artists. The proposition made by Mr. Otway was that the report should be amended by disallowing those sums.

Mr. WILSON defended the appointment.

The House divided, and there appeared—For the motion, 33; against it, 45; majority 7. The vote was then agreed to.

SALE OF BEER, &c., BILL.

This bill was considered, and ordered for third reading on Thursday.

A NARROW ESCAPE.—During the storm of Thursday week a party of ladies took refuge for a short time under one of the large trees which line the road eastward from Rosemead Church, and had left their shelter only a few minutes when they were startled by a bright flash, accompanied on the instant with a terrific peal of thunder. The tree under which the party had just been standing—an elm of gigantic dimensions, not less than ten feet in circumference—was struck in a cleft about twenty feet from the ground, and the large trunk split in two down to the root. The tree remains standing with the rest plainly visible. Pieces of the bark were stripped off, and scattered in shivers about the shore.

THE MORMONITES IN WALES.—In various parts of South Wales the emissaries of the Mormonites are most active in propagating and spreading the doctrines of the Latter-Day Saints, and among the labouring population they have been indefatigable in urging the odious practice of polygamy. Among the miners and colliers of the iron and coal districts of South Wales the tenets of this sect find peculiar favour; and we regret to say that in too many instances these poor people have been perverted, and a considerable number have this summer left their homes and country to seek their happiness at the great American settlement. More are about to follow this autumn.

HINT TO THE SYDENHAM PALACE DIRECTORS.—The visitors are still numerous, averaging 15,000 daily, not including Friday and Sunday. On this last day more than 20,000 of the population gratify their curiosity and admire those exquisite specimens of human art of so many kinds which are spread out before them. On Fridays the attendance has been always thin, and is becoming more evanescent. The idea was a bad one of increasing by five times the price of admission on Friday, or indeed increasing it at all. The French are accustomed to gratuitous admission to their national establishments, and they feel a repugnance to visit a place where a different system prevails. On the high-priced day the building is always deserted. This feeling pervades all classes, whether rich or poor. In other countries it would, perhaps, be considered "vulgar" to be seen at such a place on low-priced days; and the fewer or more select the numbers the more "genteel" it is. Here the contrary is the case. Nothing gives more delight to a Frenchman than a crowd; and the sight of a multitude of people amusing themselves, pleased or imparting pleasure, has for him the greatest interest of all. I do not believe all that was said about the Senators and other high functionaries of State waiting for the four-days day to visit the Exhibition for the first time; but it is certain that on Sundays, when the lowest price prevails, and the greatest numbers attend, carriages and liveries are even more numerous, perhaps, than on any other day of the week; and they are certainly seldom to be seen on Fridays, when the highest price is taken. It is believed that a change will be made in this respect, and, indeed, unless it be so, the Exhibition people may, without any injury to the establishment, enjoy their holiday on Friday.—*Letter from Paris.*

LETTER OF A RUSSIAN LADY.—The following letter fell into my hands a day or two since on a visit to a deserted village, about twelve miles from Balaklava. It is by a female hand, and is dated the very day of the capture of the Mamelon Vert, from a village to the north of Sebastopol. Omitting the domestic details, I cannot forbear giving the political and military contents, which may be considered public property:—"May 26th (June 7).—You are not, my dear sister, in a very safe position; according to my judgment, the enemy is only a few steps from you at Foross. The Baidar road is broken up. We have already sent pioneers to the coast to break up the roads in case of the arrival of the enemy; they have taken a sufficient quantity of powder. In your letter of the 12th May (24th) you said all was quiet about you, but it cannot be so now. Kerch is taken; at Arabat there was a battle, in which we were victorious. They even say that a Russian army is marching on Paris. Up to today all was quiet in Sebastopol. To-day the enemy bombarded heavily, but did nothing but bombard, and will do nothing; they can do nothing at all against us. Mother, who has just come from there, says it is impossible to recognise the town, it is so much changed by the fortifications continually added to it. At the Severnaya, you enter as through a gate with enormous batteries on each side. Mother was there a day when it was quite quiet; she even slept in the town that night. At ten o'clock a shell fell into the gallery near the window; happily, it did not fall into the room, or she might have been hurt. . . . They say that the seat of war will soon be transferred to the Danube. It is time that those gentlemen should leave us and let us have a little rest. As soon as they go the town of Sebastopol will be built where the Chersonese was, and what is now Sebastopol will be entirely a fortress. How curious it will be till one gets accustomed to it." &c. The writer goes on to speak of her yellow dress being ready, and that she was going in it to Sebastopol to have her portrait taken. It would appear that the Russians are taking the thing very coolly, or rather were doing so six weeks ago. But within a few hours after the foregoing letter was written, the Mamelon was attacked, and the most brilliant operation of the siege carried out. The bombardment, which the fair writer and her military friends treated with such contempt, was, no doubt, expected by them to resemble the operations of October and April, and to be followed up by no attack. It would seem that for once we found the Russians unprepared, and by using that opportunity gained the most signal success which has attended the siege operations—a success which, it had been followed up, would no doubt have led to still more glorious results. The Severnaya alluded to in the letter is what we call the Star Fort, or is more probably applied as a name for the whole northern faubourg. The Russians are busy at work strengthening this part of the place, as well as their positions on the Katscha and Belbec, in anticipation of operations at some future period for the entire possession of Sebastopol and the Crimea.—*Letter from the Camp, July 16.*



THE WELLINGTON COLLEGE, NEAR SANDHURST. SOUTH FRONT.—JOHN SHAW, ARCHITECT.—(SEE PAGE 15.)

THE WELLINGTON COLLEGE.

Among the most gratifying instances of the wisely-administered benevolence of the present age, is the foundation of a class of national monuments; which, while they honour the memory of the illustrious dead, shall provide for the exigencies of the meritorious living. In such an enlightened spirit has originated the noble scheme of the Wellington College, for the education of orphan sons of officers in the military service of the Crown or of the East India Company.

We have engraved upon the preceding pages the accepted design for this edifice; and quote the following details of the institution from an appeal which the Governors have just made to the public:—

On the death of the late illustrious Duke of Wellington, it was very generally felt that no more appropriate monument could be raised to his memory than a building which, exclusive of its external appearance and architectural merit, should serve the higher purpose of giving a gratuitous, or nearly gratuitous, education to the orphans of that profession of which he was himself the head and the brightest ornament—of a class of men who, possessing strong claims upon the gratitude of their country, too often leave to their families no other inheritance than an honoured name, and to whom the bitter pang of approaching death must be the knowledge of the consequent destitution of those most dear to them. Her Majesty was pleased to take a deep interest in the proposed scheme, and to mark her Royal approval by conferring a charter of incorporation upon the voluntary association, and by liberally subscribing to its funds. Contributions poured in from the most distant portions of her Majesty's dominions, and at the expiration of two years the Governors had at their disposal a sum of £105,000, which has been increased by interest received, after deducting all expenses, to £109,000, their present available balance.

It was then estimated that, supposing a suitable building to be provided, sixty boys might be therein lodged, boarded, and partly clothed, at £60 per head; or, if the number were increased to 100 boys, at from £50 to £55. The sum of £1,000 was then invested, so as to yield an annual income of £3200; and it is proposed to derive from the payments of 100 boys, at from £10 to £33, a further sum of £2100, making a total of £5300.

The Governors, at the expense of £1200, next obtained possession of a site, comprising 132 acres of wild land, elevated yet sheltered, on the line of the Reading and Reigate Railway, about two miles from the Military College of Sandhurst, with a fine prospect to the south-west, over an extensive line of country, to Stratfieldsaye, the residence of the illustrious Duke to whose honour the College is to be erected.

The Governors next proceeded to obtain a plan and design for the proposed College, and they have great pleasure in expressing their unqualified approval of one which they have received from the eminent architect, Mr. Shaw, both as to its exterior elevation and as to its admirable internal adaptation to its object.

The lowest tender for the execution of this design is barely under £40,000 for the building itself, including the principal fixtures and fittings; to which must be added the sums required for the purchase of the site, for the erection of a chapel and infirmary, for boilers and steam-machinery, for kitchen apparatus, and for ensuring an abundant supply of pure water, making the estimated total outlay £55,000.

Towards this sum the Governors have on hand a balance of £29,000, leaving therefore a deficiency on the estimated outlay of about £26,000, exclusive of the annual sum which may be required to enable them to extend the full benefits of the institution to the whole number of 220 boys, which the building will be calculated to accommodate.

It is true that at the expiration of the two years which must probably be occupied in the erection of the College, their funds will be increased, by the accumulation of interest, to the extent of about £7000; and it is also true that by postponing for some years the opening of the College, by building in the first instance only the shell, or a portion of the shell, and gradually enlarging the internal accommodation, the Governors may be enabled, out of their accruing interests, to complete the whole work in process of time; but, independently of this mode of operation being far more costly in the end, it is in every respect infinitely less satisfactory; above all, it postpones, almost indefinitely, the opening of an institution, of which events are daily and painfully demonstrating the urgent need.

Exclusive of the provision made for the children of soldiers in the various military asylums of the country, the nation, with a noble generosity, has contributed a sum exceeding a million sterling, to be applied through the medium of the Patriotic Fund, to the relief of the pecuniary distress of the widows and children of soldiers falling victims to the present war; but the Royal Commission administering that fund have decided that, except in very rare and exceptional cases, no part of it is applicable to the widows of officers, and no part, in any case, to the education of their children.

For these cases, beyond the very moderate pittance of the Widows' Pension, and the occasional aid of the Compassionate Fund, no provision whatever is made from public or private sources; and yet, among them are to be found (and that not as rare exceptions) the severest forms of distress and suffering. The family of the officer who dies in the field or in the hospital, are deprived not only of the income which they might have derived from his pay, but lose the whole sum which, in most cases, he had invested in the purchase of his commission; and from a state of comparative ease are too often plunged into one of destitution, the more painful from the struggle to conceal the intensity of suffering, and to maintain something of the appearance of their former condition. Of all the forms in which relief can be administered to a widow suffering under such privations, none can be more valuable than that which gives to one at least of the objects of her anxiety the means of receiving, at a cost less than that of his mere maintenance, not that maintenance only, but, in addition, the advantages of a sound religious, moral, and practical education, which may fit him for meeting the difficulties of his future career.

Such is the relief which the Wellington College aims at giving, and giving as early as possible. The Governors would have been gratified had her Majesty's Government thought fit to propose to Parliament to grant a comparatively small sum for this truly national object; and they cannot doubt that such an appeal, if yet made, would meet with the ready concurrence of Parliament; but in the absence of any such assistance, the Governors will not for a moment believe that when war and disease are daily adding fearfully to the number of claimants on such a charity, the British public, which has already so liberally testified its appreciation of the object, will turn a deaf ear to their urgent appeal, or hesitate, by an early and generous effort, to enable the Governors of the Wellington College to extend, at no distant period, the full benefits of their charity to objects which at this time have a peculiar and a sacred claim on their benevolence.

The site originally proposed for the College comprised 112 acres, to which it has been thought expedient to add 20 acres on the north side, as affording the opportunity of forming a very ornamental piece of water (a stream running through it), and thus making a fine feature in the landscape, and enhancing the value of the site generally, by so converting what might otherwise continue to be detrimental in its present state as wet and marshy land.

The design for the College consists of two quadrangles, surrounded by arcades of communication: the first being the school quadrangle, and the second the hall quadrangle. In the former, on the north side, is the entrance gateway in the centre, with the porter's lodge and office on each side of it; also the head master's residence on one side, and the secretary's or steward's residence on the other. On the south side is the school, in the centre of the building, and on the east and west sides are the class-room and boys' library. In the second, or inner quadrangle, on the south side, is the hall; on the east side are the kitchen and domestic offices for the female department, communicating with a kitchen court; and on the west side the under-masters' rooms, their library, and the domestic male department; in a line with the hall, and facing the south, is placed the chapel, on one side, and the infirmary on the other, a little removed from the main building, but communicating by covered ways. The foregoing is all on the ground floor, on which are also disposed the washhouse and laundry; and in the kitchen court are also a large plunging bath for the boys, &c. The upper floors comprehend the dormitories, extending from north to south on the east and west sides of the two quadrangles, being open to the south throughout; the hall and school running transversely, and being one story only in height. These dormitories are divided into separate rooms, one for each boy, about 10 feet by 7 feet—an arrangement deemed essential to their moral and religious discipline, in affording them the means of washing and studying in private, and the opportunity of private prayer.

Perfect means of communication is provided through the dormitories on the same floor. The access to them is by means of staircases in the centre of each range, with all requisite closets, wardrobes, &c.

The building is designed to be of brick, depending for its architectural effect solely on a bold projecting cornice, surmounted by a slate roof of high pitch to throw off the rain. The entrance gateway in the centre is simple but large, surmounted by the arms of the great Duke. The quoins are of light red brick and stone alternately; and there are stone string-courses at the doors.

Throughout the design the architect has avoided all extraneous ornament, and has endeavoured to make the features which are essential to the use of the building to constitute its architectural effect; and, by adapting it to its purpose, to the material which the site affords (viz., bricks), and to the climate, to make the building essentially English in its character, rather than an imitation of the style prevailing in other times and in other countries.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

LEWIS, Shirley.—1. You cannot castle when your adversary checks you, to escape that check, but you may castle subsequently. 2. The act of the Rook being en prise of an adverse piece is no bar to a player's castling. JOHNSON.—The delay in the publication of Sir Frederic Madden's article on the "Introduction of Chess into Europe" is owing to the difficulty experienced in obtaining certain indispensable MSS. from Spain and Italy. We are happy to say there is now every prospect of these interesting papers being commenced very shortly. C. W. Bidbury.—Still below the mark. Try once more. H. M. S.—The only interest, we are sorry to say, in the game "played by signals between two war-steamer of her Majesty's navy," is, that it was so played. It is not only disgraced by the most glaring errors in the play, but has been taken down so negligently that all the latter part is unintelligible. PARASITUS R.—We shall be glad to see the Problems, and to know to what Solution and to what articles you refer. SHORON DUBOIS, Tapan.—You have forgotten to send any address. G. M. B., Dunder.—Thy style will be reported on in our next. CAROLUS HERRIUS.—No; unless by composers of acknowledged excellence. E. P. R., Augusta, U.S.—1. Your Solution of No. 592 is a mile wide. You overlook the fact that Black, in taking the Rook, gives check. 2. If Black in our Solution were to capture the Queen, he would only be mated in a less number of moves. H. T., AMATEUR, TYRO-JUVENS.—In this file. SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 595 by Clippel, O. P., Paracelsus R., W. G., Peter, Retreater, Dr. Field, F. H. of Norwich, Mrs. Millicoddy, Caro us, Henricus, J. P., Guernsey, are correct. SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 597, by Charlie, M. P., Paracelsus R., Dogherry, (Eliphas, J. A. B., Fakenham, Drevon, F. R. of Norwich, Excalibur, Gregory, Bookworm, Sonus, Omicron, S. T. P., H. G., J. N. D., D. F. R. S., Antiquary, Rusticus, Miles, Mercator Omega, Peter the Little, Medicus, Observer, H. V., are correct. All others are wrong.

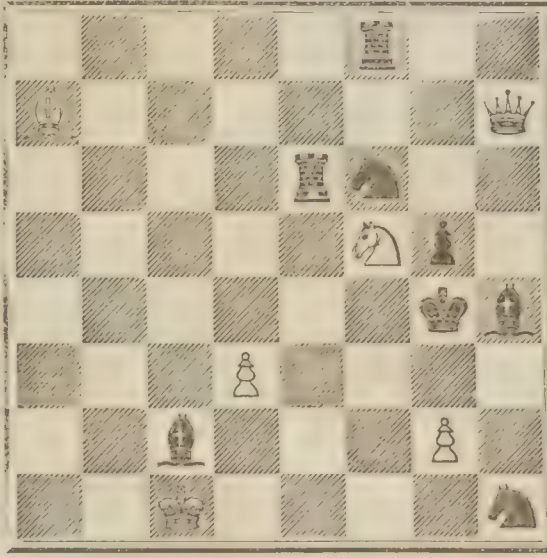
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 597.

WHITE. BLACK. WHITE. BLACK.
1. R to Q B 6th K takes K (best) 3. B to Q 7th K takes Kt
2. B to K 6th K to Q Kt 2nd 4. B mates

PROBLEM No. 598.

By Mr. W. GRIMSHAW.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in three moves.

CHESS AT THE LEAMINGTON MEETING.

Game played between Sir JOHN BLUNDEN, Captain GOWAN, and Mr. H. TURTON in consultation against Herr HORWITZ.

(Giulco Piano.)

WHITE. (Herr Horwitz.)	BLACK. (The Allies.)	WHITE. (Herr Horwitz.)	BLACK. (The Allies.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	19. P to K B 5th	Q to K 2nd (d)
2. K Kt to K B 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	20. P takes P	K B takes P
3. K B to Q B 4th	K B to Q B 4th	21. K to Kt sq	Q B to K B 2nd
4. P to Q B 3rd	K Kt to K B 3rd	22. B takes K B	R takes B
5. P to Q 4th	P takes P	23. Q to Q 4th	K R to Q B sq
6. P to K 7th (e)	P to Q 4th	24. P to K R 4th	Q R to Q B 7th
7. B to Q Kt 5th	Kt to K 5th		(c)
8. P takes P	B to Q Kt 3rd	25. P to K Kt 5th	K R to Q B 5th
9. Q to Q B 2nd	B to Q 2nd	26. Kt takes R	R takes Kt
10. B takes Kt	B takes B (b)	27. Q takes K Kt P	K takes Q
11. Q Kt to Q B 3rd	Castles		(ch)
12. B to K 3rd	P to K B 3rd	28. P to K B 6th (ch)	Q takes P
13. Castles Q'side (c)	Kt takes Kt	29. P takes Q (ch)	K takes P
14. Q takes Kt	P to K sq	30. Q R to K B sq	K to K 2nd
15. P takes P	Q takes P		(ch)
16. Kt to K 5th	Q to K 3rd	31. P to R 5th	R to Q B 2nd
17. P to K B 4th	Q R to Q B sq	32. Q R to K Kt sq	K to Q 3rd
18. P to K Kt 4th	P to Q B 4th	33. P to K R 6th	P to Q 5th

Indisposition at this point caused Herr Horwitz to leave the game, which otherwise he most likely would have won.

(a) Some of the best authorities now prefer taking the Pawn with Pawn.
(b) This is not so good as taking with the Pawn, since the Bishop must lose time in retreating to make way for the advance of the Q B Pawn.
(c) Highly hazardous, but Herr Horwitz, like our Cousin, seems often to court danger from love of excitement, or to show how he can out-think his opponent.
(d) We incline to believe the Allies would have done better by taking Pawn with Pawn and forcing an exchange of Queens.
(e) *Cutliff*. Instead of this move of no meaning, would it not have been wiser to play Q to K B 3rd? It is clear that White could not then have advanced his K Kt Pawn, and if he had ventured to attack the Queen and Rook he must have lost the game: e.g. —
25. Q to K B 3rd. 28. R takes R. Q takes Q
26. Kt to Q 7th. 29. R to Q B 8th (ch). B to K sq.
27. R takes R. R takes R (ch). 30. R takes B (ch). K to B 2nd.
And White would lose.

CHESS IN BELGIUM.

Smart skirmish played "lang syne" between Mr. STAUNTON and M. DE RIVES.

(Scotch Gambit.)

WHITE (Mr. S.)	BLACK (M. de R.)	WHITE (Mr. S.)	BLACK (M. de R.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	12. Q Kt to Q 5th	Q to Q 2nd
2. K Kt to K B 3rd	Q Kt to Q B 3rd	13. B to Q Kt 2nd	K Kt to K 2nd (b)
3. P to Q 4th	P takes P	14. Q B takes P	Q B takes Kt
4. K B to Q B 4th	K B to Q Kt 5th	15. P takes B	Q Kt to K 4th
	(ch)	16. Kt takes Kt	P takes Kt
5. P to Q B 3rd	P takes P	17. B takes K R	Kt to K Kt 3rd
6. Castles	P to Q B 7th	18. B to K B 6th	Q to K B 4th
7. Q takes P	P to Q 3rd	19. B to Q Kt 5th (ch)	K to B sq
8. P to Q R 3rd	K B to Q R 4th	20. Q to K B 3rd	Kt to K B 5th
9. P to K R 4th	K B to Q Kt 3rd	21. B to K R 4th	P to K 5th
10. Q to her Kt 3rd (a)	Q to K 2nd	22. Q to Q B 3rd	K to Kt sq
11. Q Kt to Q B 3rd	Q B to K 3rd	23. Q to K B 6th	

And Black resigned.

(a) It is not unusual to play the Q B to Q Kt 2nd at this moment. The game then proceeds thus:—
10. Q B to Q Kt 2nd. K Kt to K B 3rd. 13. B takes Kt. Castles. Kt to K Kt 5th.
11. P to K 3rd. P takes P. 14. Q Kt to Q B 3rd. Kt to K Kt 3rd, &c.
12. Kt takes P. R takes Kt. 15. Q B to K Kt 3rd, &c.
(b) Did enough, but what else could he do? If he had played the natural move of P to K B 3rd, White would have taken the K B with his Kt, winning a piece.

CHESS ENIGMAS.

From the Wiener Schachzeitung.

No. 927.

White: K at Q B 4th, Kt at Q Kt 4th, P at Q R 2nd.
Black: K at Q R 5th; P's at Q B 2nd and 4th, Q R 3rd and 6th.
White to play and mate in six moves.

No. 928.

White: K at K B 4th, Q at Q Kt 2nd, Kt at Q Kt 7th.
Black: K at Q 4th, P's at Q 2nd and Q B 3rd.
White to play and mate in four moves.

No. 929.

White: K at K 2nd, Q at K R 7th, B's at Q 9th and Q Kt sq, Kt at Q B 5th.
Black: K at Q 4th, R at Q R sq, Kt at Q R 3rd.
White to play and mate in three moves.

No. 930.

White: K at K 8th, Q at Q B 2nd, R at K B 2nd.
Black: K at Q 4th; P's at K B 3rd, K 4th, and Q 3rd.
White to play and mate in four moves.

TOWN AND TABLE TALK ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

AFTER four months' unnecessary concealment, and after many questions in both Houses of Parliament for its production, the Treasury Minute reconstituting the establishment of the National Gallery has at length made its appearance in print. We have been favoured with an early copy of this minute, and, as it will soon be the talk of artistic circles, we shall endeavour to give the marrow of its contents in as few words as possible.

The National Gallery will in future be managed by twelve unpaid Trustees; by a "Director," with a salary of one thousand pounds a year; a Keeper and Secretary, with a salary of £750 a year and rooms; and a Travelling Agent, with a salary of £300 a year and his travelling expenses. The twelve Trustees are:—Earl of Ripon, Earl of Aberdeen, Marquis of Lansdowne, Samuel Rogers, Esq., Duke of Sutherland, Earl of Ellesmere, Lord Monteagle, Sir James Graham, Lord Overstone, Lord Ashburton, William Russell, Esq., and Thomas Baring, Esq. The Director is Sir Charles Eastlake, the President of the Royal Academy; the Keeper and Secretary, Mr. Ralph Wornum; and the Travelling Agent, Mr. Otto Mündler. The Trustees are the same as before, with the exception of the *ex officio* Trustees. The Director is appointed for a term of five years, but is eligible for reappointment, while his appointment may be at any time revoked by the Treasury. Mr. Wornum, it will be seen, is no longer Keeper. The supposed necessity for the continuance of the Trustees is thus truly explained by the Lords of the Treasury:—

Their Lordships are of opinion that the continuance of Trustees is desirable, not for the purpose of sharing, except in a very limited and defined form, the responsibility of the Director; but in order to keep up a connection between the cultivated lovers of art and the institution, to give their weight and aid, as public men, on many questions in art of a public nature that may arise, and to form an indirect though useful channel of communication between the Government of the day and the institution.

Without this aid the Director would be in a high but insulated position, reporting periodically to the Treasury, but missing the counsel and experience of the Trustees, and being without that stimulus to exertion which the knowledge of the bond of union existing between the lovers of art in this country and himself, through the medium of the Trustees, would be calculated to afford.

The Duties of the Director are thus defined. We fear that they will clash with other duties; but Sir Charles is a man of even temper and tact, and may command his twelve without much trouble:—

The chief duties of the Director, in addition to his functions at the Board of Trustees, will consist in the selection and purchase, or recommendation for purchase, of pictures for the National Gallery, and in the arrangement, description, and conservation of the collection.

One of the most important duties of the Director, and one which will require great care and attention, will be to construct a correct history of every picture in the collection, including its repairs, and describing accurately its present condition, which history will be continued from time to time by new entries as occasion may require.

The selection of pictures must, of course, be left in a great measure to the judgment of the Director, aided by the Trustees; but my Lords are of opinion that, as a general rule, preference should be given to fine pictures for sale abroad. As regards the finer works of art in this country, it may be assumed that, although they may change hands, they will not leave our shores; whereas the introduction of fine works from abroad would form a positive addition to the treasures of art in England.

My Lords are also of opinion that, as a general rule, preference should be given to good specimens of the Italian Schools, including those of the earlier masters. It must, however, be clearly understood that their Lordships do not intend in any way to fetter the Trustees and Director in their choice, but that they must use their discretion as circumstances arise.

My Lords propose, in accordance with the recommendation of the Committee, to insert annually in the estimate for the National Gallery, a sum expressly for the purchase of pictures. This sum need not be annually expended, but might accumulate, and thus enable the Trustees and Director to purchase a fine collection at once, if such an opportunity should offer.

If cases of sudden emergency should arise, it will be competent for the Director to purchase a picture out of the sum so voted, and as he will do this entirely on his own responsibility, it will be necessary that the reasons for the purchase should be fully stated in writing, and placed on record at the next ensuing meeting of the Trustees.

In the event of the Director recommending a larger purchase than the grant at the disposal of the Treasury can meet, his recommendation and the opinion of the Trustees thereon, after being inserted on the minutes, must be forwarded to my Lords for their consideration.

My Lords are of opinion that, for the present, the loan or temporary deposit of pictures in the National Gallery should not be permitted.

If it shall be decided by the Trustees, on the recommendation of the Director, to remove any picture from the collection, either for the purpose of lending it to some provincial collection, or as a permanent measure, a report stating the reasons for this must be made to my Lords, and their sanction obtained.

The Director will prepare and issue, with the sanction of the Trustees, rules and instructions for the guidance of the officers and attendants in their duty, and he will in like manner frame regulations for the admission of students and others to make copies in the galleries; which rules and regulations, with any changes made from time to time, must be appended to the general report which the Director is to make annually to the Treasury.

The Keeper is to compile a "catalogue of the masters who might, sooner or later, be represented in a National Gallery." The Travelling Agent is to keep a diary of his journeys and proceedings, and the Trustees are to present an annual report of the Gallery, to be printed with the estimate. That the Lords of the Treasury were in earnest in their report is evident from the vote of Parliament for £10,000 "to purchase pictures for the Gallery during the current year." What has been bought by Sir Charles Eastlake? What has Mr. Otto Mündler seen?

The monument to be erected in Greenwich Hospital to Sir John Franklin and his followers has been entrusted to Mr. Westmacott, R.A. Artists are remarking on the insufficiency of the amount voted for the purpose—only £800! But this, perhaps, is only a portion of the sum; though the wording of the printed vote would not lead to such a supposition.

Ten thousand pounds are to be divided amongst the discoverers of the North-West Passage. Captain McClure is to have £5000, and the officers and crews the other half. And thus ends what has been our enormous expenditure on a great but useless geographical discovery—an expenditure incurred by the Admiralty under the adroit advice of the late Sir John Barrow, when the appropriation of the public money was not looked narrowly into by Parliament or the public.

Our "Talk" this week has run into something like a Money article, but this is not our fault, and we have yet to remark on another matter to which the attention of Parliament has just been called. The Royal Society has for the last few years had an annual allowance from Government of a thousand pounds for scientific purposes. The "usual" allowance has this year been withheld. We are sorry for the withdrawal, but before the continuance of any annual grants of the kind are made some report should be printed of the services to science rendered by the previous vote. Perhaps Mr. Weld (the admirable Assistant Secretary to the Society) will inform us on the subject.

FATAL CASE OF HYDROPHOBIA.—A private in the Worcestershire Militia, named William Holloway, was last week seized with symptoms of hydrophobia at his billet, and sent to the regimental hospital as soon as possible, but the progress of the disease was so rapid that, despite the unremitting attention of the surgeon, he expired in great agony on the following Saturday night. It appears that about two or three years ago the deceased was bitten by a mad dog, but from that time till within a few weeks ago he enjoyed good health.

THE NEW AMBULANCE TRANSPORT SERVICE.

THE Ambulances represented by our Artist in the annexed sketch are conveying the wounded to the Castle Hospital, situated behind the old Genoese Fort—the ruins of which are seen in the distance, towering above Balaklava Harbour, of which a glimpse is caught in the middle distance. The white house in front of the cliff is a marine villa, which has been converted into a hospital for sailors. The new ambulances are made with a double seat, so that each male can carry two wounded soldiers. The patients lie in a kind of arm-chair, the upper part of which is covered like the *capote* of a cabriolet.



NEW AMBULANCE TRANSPORT SERVICE.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)

LAYING DOWN POSITION LIGHTS FOR MEN-OF-WAR.

WE have to thank an obliging Correspondent for the accompanying Sketch and details of this operation, taken off Sebastopol.

For various reasons it had been deemed inexpedient for the men-of-war to make an attack on the Russian batteries during daylight, since the damage we might inflict would be by no means commensurate with the injuries we ourselves would sustain. Much chagrin and mortification were felt generally through the fleet when we saw the contest raging under our eyes, and were unable to share in its perils and participate in its glory. No one, from the Admiral down to the common seaman, witnessed the battle of artillery, and heard day and night the deep sullen mutterings of the Russian guns replying to the cannonade of the Allies, without a sigh that we were passive spectators and not active combatants. A plan, however, was conceived and proposed by Lord Clarence Paget, Captain of the *Princess Royal*, immediately adopted by the Admiral, and executed by Mr. Hall, the master of Lord Paget's ship, with such consummate judgment, ability, alacrity, and skill, that he has merited and met with the warmest approbation of all those who have been thus enabled to come in contact with our enemies. By means of this plan of Lord Paget, the men-of-war are now important actors in the

struggle. All along they occupied a prominent position: they paralysed the hostile squadron; they withdrew a part of the garrison from the positions against which the weight of the Allied attack was directed, by perpetually menacing the batteries on the sea-board; they covered the left flank; protected the rear; and afforded supplies to the army, without which, in this poorly-cultivated country, our troops could not have existed for a week. But now, by means of position lights of different colours being erected at suitable places along the shore, we are enabled to take up the best position for discharging our broadsides into the besieged town. The duty of superintending the erection of those lights, of course, devolved on Mr. Hall, and it was a duty requiring care and attention, and entailing considerable danger, the slightest derangement of one of the lights from its proper position would cause the ships to run on the Constantine or Quarantine shoals; and whilst we were determining a suitable position for their erection, the shot furrowed the ground around, and the huge shell discharged at the French Battery A, on the extreme left of our attack, sent their whizzing fragments unpleasantly close. On the night of the 16th, guided by those lights, fifteen small vessels in succession went in, and fired on the town, allowing an interval of half an hour to elapse between each vessel delivering its fire; the only two-decker as yet that has been permitted to go in against the batteries is the *Princess Royal*. On the night of the 18th

Lord Paget obtained permission to try his guns against Muscovite Forts: the night was dark, the moon had sunk beneath the horizon; the rocket-ships occasionally sent up one of their projectiles with its long train of light; but, unfortunately, they showed us to the enemy too soon, and permitted them to find our range accurately, and in a moment the silence and grim repose that wrapped the northern batteries was broken, and a perfect storm of shot and shell was hurled on us, from the mouth of the Belbec to the Quarantine Fort. But soon we took up our proper position, and a wild, fierce, and lurid burst of flame issuing from our broadside for an instant, dissipated the gloom; with horrid clamour forty-six shell-like globes of flame, rushed blazing through the night, and carried with them ruin, devastation, and dismay—each shell as it ricocheted, flaming along the surface of the water, seemed like some strange sea-monster, and presented an appearance so grand, wild, terrific, and strange, that description fails to convey even a faint idea of the scene.

In the accompanying Sketch, on the extreme left, is the French battery much exposed and injured by the fire of the Quarantine. Next is a Russian earthwork in front of the crenelated, firing upon the aforesaid battery. In about the centre of the picture are the sailors placing the position lights, to each of which is attached a wooden screen for conceal



PREPARING TO MAKE SIGNALS.



THE WORONZOW ROAD.

ment from the view of the Russian batteries; while also are shown the boats of the *Princess Royal*, with Mr. Hall, at the entrance of the Strelitzka Harbour, with materials for constructing the lights; and on the right is the marine tent of the sentries of the *Princess Royal*, who are posted there for the purpose of attending the lights over Strelitzka Harbour.

SKETCHES IN THE CRIMEA. VALLEY OF VORUTZA, WORONZOW ROAD.

OUR Correspondent writes:—"In the valley on our left, coming from Baidar, we fell in with a party of Turkish troops, camped in their peculiar way. One of those encampments and the aspect of the surrounding scenery was peculiarly characteristic. Each sentry is protected by a sort of parasol, made of foliage. Behind the *faisceaux* (rows of piled arms) there is a long gallery, constructed of boughs, under the shadow of which the men lie throughout the greater part of the day, instead of remaining under canvas. Piled drums and bugles; arabas drawn by buffaloes, and containing a group of soldiers (the Tartar driver in front

of the car); soldiers on foot and on *bât-horses*;—here are all the pell-mell of a Turkish *colonne en marche*, showing the total absence of any regular transport service, with all the inconveniences of the traditional *impedimenta*. In the background is the "Omer Pacha Tent," surrounded by large ones for his suite, with carriages and horses.

VALLEY OF VORUTZA.—TURKISH BATTERIES COMMANDING THE WORONZOW ROAD FROM BAIDAR.

THIS singular scene is thus described by our Correspondent:—"The pieces are covered with foliage, as well as the *caissons* (waggons) behind; they are in position so as to command the Woronzow road. The sentry, a foot artilleryman with a small sword and a belt, is, as usual with the Turks, placed under an umbrella-like shelter made of a pole and foliage. An officer is crossing a little rivulet at the bottom of the hill; the artillery are in two lines behind and hidden under the trees; and beyond are the huts.

NEW WAR PROJECTILE.—A remarkable series of experiments were made on Monday in the grounds adjoining Chelsea Hospital, by Captain Disney, the inventor of a new war projectile, which he says has been brought

before the notice of the proper authorities, but does not yet appear to have been adopted in the service. The invention is one of a very simple description, and there seems to be no good reason why it should not be used with great advantage in the contest in which we are now engaged with Russia. It consists of a shell with a bursting charge of powder contained in a metal cylinder and filling the rest of their space with a highly combustible fluid, which on exposure to the air ignites everything with which it is brought into contact. This fluid does not act upon the substance of the shell, is not in itself explosive, and, being prevented from leaking by a nicely-fitted brass screw-plug, enables the missile to be carried about without much risk. Directed against ships, houses, or masses of troops, the new projectile would have all the destructive properties of the rocket, without its uncertainty of aim. Water only temporarily extinguishes its incandescent power, which is so great as to make even wool materials burn with a quick flame. Captain Disney also states that by a similar use of another chymical fluid he can cause blindness for several hours to troops coming within a quarter of a mile of its operation; but this portion of experiments was, for obvious reasons, omitted. Applied to hand-grenades, the substance which he exhibited on Monday would be found very destructive, and its chief use would probably be as a charge for large shells. As the Select Committee of the Ordnance has now been reformed and enlarged, the attention which it pays to this and other inventions of apparently a practical character will be narrowly watched by the public.



TURKISH BATTERIES COMMANDING THE WORONZOW ROAD.

OUR LODGERS.—(No. II.)

THE BACK ATTIC.

WELL, it really seems as though it should have happened on purpose to form a sequel to this second sketch of mine. I dare say you wonder what I mean; but you must have patience.

Shortly after Mrs. Mungo I and were married we succeeded to my mother's business, the old lady having died, as I told you. All the rooms were let to very good tenants—the "back attic" and all—as we thought. It was occupied by a widow and her daughter—a Mrs. and Miss Watson (name not real, for reasons to be named hereafter). They were poor, but punctual with their rent; and, consequently, were great favourites with us all. Miss Watson painted flowers on velvet, and used to sell them to some person in the Soho Bazaar. Mrs. Watson did nothing but what she pleased, and I have reason to believe she had been well off at some period of her life. She was a very quiet lady-like woman, and kept her room like a little palace. She was very fond of flowers, and it did one's heart good to see how bright and cheerful the "back attic" used to look in summer-time, decked out as it was with the gayest and sweetest blossoms that could be bought for a little money. She used to excuse this extravagance to me by saying that her daughter required them as patterns to paint from, and I dare say she did. Miss Watson was rather pretty, a little too slim for my liking, and much too melancholy. She was somewhat proud too, and in her better days had been rather wayward, in her disposition, as Mrs. Mungo discovered from a letter which she found under peculiar circumstances. The letter was from some one who had loved her dearly, and ran thus (for I took a copy of it):—"No one can love you half so well as I do. No one can think you half so beautiful. I have tried by every act and word to win your regard, but you have slighted me. You have cast a shadow over my life, but I shall never cease to love you. Keep the worthless presents I have given you, and any others which I may send. They will be like offerings upon a grave, for I know you are dead to me for ever." Little did I think, when I read that letter fifteen years ago, that the writer and I should ever be known to one another; but this is a strange world, my masters.

The winter of 18—was a very severe one, and coals rose to an enormous price; the consequence was that the Watsons were obliged to pinch a good deal, until the old lady was taken very ill and was forced to have a doctor—an expensive thing, as everybody knows. Miss Watson was a capital nurse, for she never went to bed I believe for the fortnight that her mother was ill, painting away all the time, and paying her rent regularly to the day, so that at last Mrs. Mungo began to feel an interest in the "back attic," and went to sit with the old lady whilst the daughter took home her paintings; but as Mrs. Watson seemed too weak to talk, and said not a word about staying to tea, Mrs. Mungo made but a short visit and never repeated it. I forget how long it was after this—I think about a month—when one of the other lodgers told me that he thought the Watsons were in a bad way, for he had seen Miss Watson walking with great difficulty in the street, and looking more like a ghost than a living person. I told him that I thought he was wrong, as she had settled her rent two days before, and had answered "Very well, I thank you," when I asked her how she was. I don't think that I should have paid any particular attention to this had I not mentioned it to Mrs. Mungo, who remarked that she also thought the Watsons were in a queer way; that it was evident the daughter was not so fully employed at her painting as she used to be, because she was in and out half a dozen times a day, and very frequently in the dusk of the evening—a thing she never used to do. Still, the rent was paid! That bothered me, because when people begin to go back in the world, it is generally the landlord that is made to suffer. I thought it was no business of mine to inquire about their affairs, so things went on as usual, except that I now and then contrived to meet Miss Watson on the stairs, and I remarked that whenever I did so, she seemed in a hurry to get away, and appeared greatly confused.

It was now April, and I had been into the country to spend three weeks with an aunt of mine in Derbyshire, when Mrs. Mungo, having given me my tea after my journey home, closed the door, and without ringing the bell for the servant to take away the tea-things, made the following statement. She said that directly I went away the Watsons fell into arrears—that she waited until the fortnight was up, and then she spoke to the daughter, and told her that as our lodgings were our daily bread, and that punctuality in paying rent was a *sine qua non*, she must beg of Mrs. Watson to pay what was owing, or leave her box and find some other apartment. Mrs. Mungo said, Miss Watson positively shivered when she heard this, and her face turned ashy pale. She never spoke a word, but went up-stairs sobbing like a child that had been severely whipped. The consequence was that one week's rent was sent by our servant to Mrs. Mungo, who is such a devoted keen woman, that her suspicions were instantly aroused. As I told you, she had never repeated her visit to Mrs. Watson, and therefore she felt it would be hardly delicate to intrude herself under existing circumstances; but, when Miss Watson went out in the evening, she sent our maid-servant to watch her, whilst she peeped through a hole she had made in the wainscot and took a general survey of the back attic. Every little ornament belonging to the Watsons had disappeared (we never put ornaments in the attics), and the old lady was sitting in her chair, her face covered by her hands, rocking herself to and fro, moaning quite audibly. Mrs. Mungo has an eye like a hawk, and she instantly saw that some of the bedding was missing. Imagine, as she said, what her horror was at this discovery. She had actually been paid her own rent with the produce of her own property, and it was really adding insult to injury. Her first impulse was to rush into the room and shake Mrs. Watson; but she restrained her feelings, and determined to await my arrival from the country. Of course I saw immediately there was but one thing to do—call in the police and give them both into charge. I did so, and never shall I forget the heart-rending scene I then witnessed. Only think! two blankets, a sheet, one pillow, and a counterpane were found to be missing, and the duplicates hid in an empty tea-caddy! Both the Watsons fell on their knees and implored for mercy, but I told them as kindly as I could that the matter was now out of my hands, and they must do the best they could with the magistrate. I was afraid the old lady would have died before we could have got her to the station-house; but by great care on the part of the policeman, mother and daughter were charged, and safely locked up.

The next morning we appeared at the Police-office, and even the magistrate said that in the course of his long experience he had never witnessed such a scene. First the mother accused herself of being only to blame. Then the daughter wouldn't hear of that, and said that the mother was innocent. Mrs. Watson tried to excuse herself by saying "that, having pawned everything belonging to them to pay their rent (that was all very well) and procure the means of subsistence, she found that for three days her daughter had taken nothing but some weak tea. That they had both been very ill, and in her despair she had counselled the pawning of Mr. Mungo's pillow, believing that every day would bring employment to her daughter, and that the article could be redeemed." The daughter denied this, and said "that all that had been done was her own act and deed—that her mother was in ignorance of the transaction, et cetera." Of course that sort of thing wouldn't do, and the magistrate appealed to me as to my intentions. I bowed and said, "Prosecute, your worship;" upon which he observed that he had nothing to do but commit the younger prisoner for trial. But, upon the earnest entreaty of the mother, he ultimately committed them both.

The trial came on: the mother was acquitted; the daughter transported for seven years. Of course, I thought that there was an end of the matter; but the policeman called some days afterwards, and told me that the old lady was gone into the workhouse; and he hoped that I would let

him take away a small miniature of Mr. Watson and some old letters—the only things that were left to her. I flatly and at once refused. He was nettled, and so was I; and I determined to keep my eye upon his movements. Would you believe it? Because Mrs. Watson had been used to have tea, and none being allowed at that time in the workhouse, he actually gave the old lady a shilling a week as long as she lived, which, luckily for him, was only about six months after the trial.

Now comes the strange part of the story, and the reasons why I have not given their real name and address.

The day before yesterday I was at home reading *Bills Life*, which I got second-hand from our butcher, when a private brough am drove up, and out got a lady and gentleman. I heard my name mentioned, so put on my coat, and hid the paper under the sofa-bolster, wondering what on earth they could want with me. When they were shown into the room, the lady said,

"You have forgotten me, Mr. Mungo?"

"I am so unfortunate," I replied.

"I believe," said the gentleman, "you have a miniature and some letters belonging to a former lodger of yours—Mrs. Watson?"

"Well, I can't say I have not." And the truth began to flash upon me.

"I believe, also, you have some lien upon them for rent," said the lady; "and—"

"For articles which formed the ground of a prosecution," added the gentleman, as bold as brass.

"Well, I have," was my answer.

"We wish to take them out of your hands, if you will name the sum you claim, Sir," said the gentleman.

"With pleasure," I replied, referring to my ledger. "Here it is—£20 18s. 6d."

"Indeed! So much?" said the lady, colouring deeply.

"With interest, simple and compound," I added. Before I could turn round, the gentleman had produced the money, and laid it on the table.

"But," said I, wishing to appear business-like, "have you authority to receive these matters?"

"I have, Sir," he answered, "this lady was Miss Watson, she is now my wife, and I am Mr. John Lawson."

[The writer of the letter fifteen years ago. There's a lover for you.]

"I was away from England," he continued, "when this misfortune occurred to Miss Watson, or, be assured, Sir, that it would have been impossible; but good has come out of evil, Clara (turning to the lady), for it has enabled me to prove the truth of an affection that you once doubted." She blushed, and I think looked towards me; but, having got the letters and the miniature, they bowed politely and took their departure.

P.S.—If there is time, please alter the name of Watson to Drayton (that is the real name). The policeman (he's an inspector now) has just called upon me, and tells me that Lawson (Bigby, real name) followed his sweetheart to Van Diemen's Land, and there married her. He has just returned to England; and, having found out the policeman, has presented him with a gold box filled with sovereigns, because of his kindness to the old lady. He has presented me with nothing; and haven't I given them credit ever since the trial of the "back attic?"

THE THEATRES, &c.

PRINCESS'.—With the benefit of Mr. and Mrs. C. Kean, which took place on Monday, the theatrical season may be said to have closed. The play was "Louis XI.," and commanded a crowded and fashionable house. The delineation of the wily Monarch—so minute in its details, so picturesque in its general effect—was maintained by the histrionic artist in all its original excellence. Mr. Kean has certainly attained the climax of his reputation by the manner in which he has realised this character. As we have previously remarked, any decided individuality is of great advantage to the performer who knows how to make the proper use of it; but to the incompetent actor it may prove a snare and a delusion. It is not every one to whom a purely historical portrait may be trusted. It requires so much that is extrinsic—so much that is special; it depends so little upon impulse, and so much upon knowledge. The labour bestowed on this part by Mr. C. Kean must have been immense; and that labour, except in an artistic sense, for the most part of the thankless sort—not employed in the pleasing, but in the severe and exact. The result was rather for the critic than the public; with the latter a more amiable hero might have been more popular. Mr. Kean's performance came up to the critical standard, and left nothing to be desired. Judgment and taste were satisfied. The audience on Monday were not slow to recognise the salient points of Mr. Kean's acting; and the occasion proved to be one of indisputable triumph.

HAYMARKET.—Monday at this theatre was appointed for the debut of a new Spanish dancer, and a new arrangement of performance was contrived to give importance to the occasion. Señor Manuel Perez is the name of the new star, who is the principal ballet master and dancer of the first theatre in Madrid and Barcelona, and certainly possesses merits at once eccentric and extraordinary. Two new ballets were illustrated by this artist in conjunction with Perea Nena. In the first of these—entitled "Gallegos y Gitanos; o' el Abate Enamorado," ("Galicians and Gipsies; or, the Abbe in Love,")—his motions were of the strangest, and most whimsical nature, but highly characteristic of the enamoured father. The ballet of "La Tarantula" is likewise a highly graceful and pleasing piece. The evening commenced with "The Stranger," in which Miss Edith Heward performed the part of Mrs. Haller, and succeeded in "opening the fount of sympathetic tears," and so far interesting the audience that she was recalled before the curtain. The house was full.

ST. JAMES'S.—Mdlle. Rachel commenced on Monday the series of four performances in the heroine of "Les Horaces." The theatre was crowded with a most fashionable audience, and the reception awarded to the great actress was enthusiastic in the extreme. In the more tragic scenes Mdlle. Rachel was incomparably fine. The other dramas in which she has appeared are "Phedre," "Andromaque," and "Adrienne Lecouvreur." The introductory piece is a comedy, entitled "Les Droits de l'Homme," of no special interest, and not justifying remark.

ADELPHI.—Mr. Wright has reappeared at this theatre in the part of Paul Pry.

ST. SWITHIN'S DAY IN THE CRIMEA.—This is the Feast of St. Swithin, and the day has been duly marked by violent rain and loud peals of thunder, while the Russian position over the valley of the Tchernaya has been hidden by a dark-blue robe of rain-cloud, and the smoke of the guns of Sebastopol seems scarcely to emerge from the watery mist which overhangs the town. Tents in the sudden Camp flap their canvas dismally; the huts are dank and dripping; and before the doors little pools of water collect on the earth, which is trodden into a deep slimy mud. The temperature this evening out of doors is that of an English November, and as the wind whistles among the tents one may fancy that the trees are being stripped of the last of their withered leaves and the frosts of winter already upon us. But this will last but a few days, and then the heats of August will parch the ground once more, wells and tanks will again yield a scanty supply, and summer will last until far into the month of September.—*Le ter from the Camp, July 15.*

THE WINTER CAMPAIGN.—The preparations made by the Allies for wintering in the Crimea are of truly astonishing proportions. Kamiesch, Balaklava, Eupatori, Yenikale have become military establishments of immense importance. The works at the two first-named places, more particularly, are of a character to retain their importance, even if the siege of Sebastopol were abandoned. The possession of these positions will compel the Russians to keep a large army in the Crimea. It is believed that the arrangements for the campaign of 1856 include the concentration of an army at Varna, Burgas, and on the Bosphorus, while the field artillery, cavalry, and means of transport will be stronger than that in the Crimea, and to which detachments of the army now in the Crimea would be added preparatory to operations in a new field. Whether the Karabelna suburb be taken and the Russian fleet destroyed, or the next assault be repulsed, the siege will finally be raised, and only the four points above named be occupied.—*Vienna Military Gazette.*

THE DUNWOLD FLITCH OF BACON.—(From a Correspondent.)—Your readers will find an account of a custom similar to that revived at Dunwold, in Addison's "Spectator," No. 607; from which it appears that Sir Philip de Somerville held the manors of Whichenore, Snesoot, Kidware, Netherton, and Cowlee, all in the county of Stafford, of the Earls of Lancaster, by the service of the Bacon Flitch.

RACHEL.

THE presence of the great French tragic actress among us to give the English public, in a brief series of performances, a last taste of her quality ere she crosses the Atlantic, will probably render interesting some account of her career, which is thus giving symptoms of approaching its close. We shall draw our material chiefly from a little biography lately published, forming part of a series of sketches of contemporaneous celebrities by M. Eugene de Mircourt.

On the 24th of March, 1820, in a wretched Swiss inn, Esther Haza, the wife of a Jew pedlar, name Felix, gave birth to a female infant, who received from her parents the names of Elizabeth Rachel. The event was recorded in no register civil or ecclesiastical—consequently, the greatest actress perhaps Europe has ever known is unable to produce a certificate of her birth. All that has ever been discovered is a note in the hand of the Burgomaster of Aran, in the Canton of Argau, stating that a pedlar's wife had been brought to bed in a village called Numf.

For ten years Rachel's parents wandered through Germany and Switzerland; and, after a long and painful struggle with every description of hardship, they at length succeeded in establishing some sort of permanent home—stead in Lyons, setting up a small business in the cast-off clothes line. The mother attended to the sale and barter of second-hand apparel, while the father gave lessons in German; and the eldest of the Jew's daughters, Sarah, contributed to the domestic treasury her gains as an itinerant singer, going about from café to café accompanied by her little sister, Rachel, who went round collecting the voluntary contributions of the auditors. Towards the year 1830 the family transferred their various gifts to Paris where a far different lot in life awaited them. First they struggled on a pretty much as they had done at Lyons. Rachel, who had grown up, now vocalised with her sister in places of public resort. It was while they were leading this vagrant life that Etienne Choron, a musical professor of renown, and the founder of a certain royal institution for sacred music, met with the two sisters, and proposed that they should attend his classes. After a visit to the parents, it was agreed that Rachel should be entered on the list of Choron's pupils, under the name of Eliza—the old gentleman objecting to her own name as too Hebraic. He soon perceived that the quality of his *protégée's* voice—metallic and vibrating—was better adapted to declamation than song, and accordingly introduced her to Pagan St. Aulaire, a gentleman who educated aspirants to the stage—whether in comedy or tragedy—independently of the Conservatoire. The young Jewess remained for four years under the guidance of this tutor, who found her scarcely able to read, but devoted all his care to the tillage of that rich but uncultivated soil, sowing in it seeds which were ultimately to fructify into a harvest of glory. He taught her the parts of *Hermione*, *Iphigene*, and *Marie Stuart*; and this, by dint of the utmost perseverance, and not without many a conflict with his pupil, for she preferred studying the heroines of comedy—the light and airy coquette, or the pert chambermaid—a preference which to this day she still cherishes, snatching at every opportunity, either in private theatricals or at the Odéon, of playing such parts as *Dorine*, in "Tartuffe," and *Marinette*—in which she is anything but effective. At this time Vedel was the cashier of the Theatre Français; and Rachel paid him a visit, entreating him to come and see her act at the little theatre in which St. Aulaire's pupils were trained. Vedel asked her what she was going to play? and she replied the *soubrette*, in the "Philosophe Marié," adding that she was to play *Hermione* first, but that she was bad in that. Vedel remarked the expressive character of her features, and the rich deep tones of her voice, and made up his mind to see her in her tragic part. After the first act he rushed off in a cab to the Rue Richelieu, and brought back Jouslins, the manager of the Theatre Français, to show him the marvel he had discovered in a little Jewess of fifteen. The manager was struck with surprise at the finished art of her delivery; never had he heard more clearness or greater power of expression. But when he saw her afterwards in the short-petticoated *soubrette* his indignation knew no bounds, and he rushed round to upbraid her master, who defended himself on the ground of his pupil's obstinate predilection. However, Rachel was sent for, and she was told by Jouslins that he would interest himself to get her into the Conservatoire, and obtain for her an allowance of 600 francs, on one condition—that she was never to undertake the part of a *soubrette* again, under the peril of incurring the displeasure both of the manager and the minister. On the 27th of October, 1836, she was admitted into Michelot's class at the Conservatoire; owing, however, to the secession of Jouslins from the management of the Comedie Française, and the constant embarrassment of his successor, Vedel, Rachel's promised allowance was not forthcoming. The pressing need in which her father found himself with an increasing family, made him eager to make his daughter's talent a source of profit without delay, and on an engagement being offered her at the Gymnase, by Poisson, old Felix closed at once with the manager. The terms agreed on were 3000 francs. A piece was expressly written for her first appearance by M. Paul Duport. It was called "La Vendeuse." Everything was done through the newspapers to draw the attention of the public to the débutante, and accordingly the public came, but evinced the utmost coldness towards the young actress. In a word, she was a complete failure, and for the future the most insignificant parts were assigned her. After vainly appealing to Vedel and to Michelot who had no very high idea of his pupil's talents, she turned to Provost, the celebrated comedian, entreating him to take up her interests. After eyeing her from top to toe he quietly informed her that she was not *cut out* for the stage, and recommended her to take to selling bouquets in the boulevards. At last, in despair, Rachel went to Samson, who was so struck with the qualities of her voice, that he undertook to devote all his care, and the results of his long experience on the cultivation of her talent. She showed herself much more docile than when under St. Aulaire gave up all idea of the *soubrettes*, and after applying herself solely to the study of the great tragic parts, she was judged sufficiently advanced to make her appearance on the boards of the Comedie Française. Her engagement at the Gymnase was cancelled, and she was attached to the Theatre Français, as *pensionnaire*, at the rate of four thousand francs a year. Soon after the bills of the great classical theatre announced that Mdlle. Rachel would make her first appearance in the part of *Camille*, in "Les Horaces."

This was in the heat of summer (the 12th of June, 1838), when all Paris was rambling through the green fields, or disporting itself at the seaside. Chance would have it that the celebrated Dr. Véron—he of the *Pôte Pectorale*, and the *Constitutionnel*—had not followed the example of all Paris; and (as he relates in his "Memoires d'un Bourgeois,") one hot summer's evening was induced, in search of a cool and solitary retreat, to enter the Theatre Français. To this fortunate but trivial accident of a vendor of cough lozenges seeking refuge from the heat in the deserted temple of the classic drama do we owe the discovery of Rachel's genius. Hear his own account of this triumph of sagacity:—"There were four spectators, he says, in the orchestra-stall, I was the fifth. My attention was directed to the stage by a strange physiognomy, replete with expression, a projecting forehead, black eyes sunk in their orbits, and glistening with fire. All this supported by an attenuated body, but with a certain elegance in its positions, movements, and attitudes. A vibrating voice, sympathetic, of the happiest diapason, and above all very intelligent, attracted my wandering mind, at that time more disposed to indolence than admiration. This strange physiognomy, these eyes full of fire, this attenuated body, this intelligent voice, was Mdlle. Rachel: she was reciting on the occasion of her debut the part of *Camille*, in "Les Horaces." In this charming style the old lozenge-maker tells the world how he recognised the genius of the young Jewess, and how he forced Merle and Janin to watch the progress of the prodigy he had discovered, and inform the world that a great actress was among them. So that to Dr. Véron Europe is indebted for one of the highest intellectual pleasures it has received; and, without the sagacious bourgeois, Rachel might have lain buried like a truffle, for want of the judicious pig's snout to disinter and give its fragrance to the world.

To whomsoever the young tragedian owed her success, it is a fact that, after playing during two months to most indifferent receipts, they suddenly rose to the large sum of 6000 francs. In the month of October the theatre made, through her performances, 100,000 francs. Her list of characters already comprised several of the finest parts of the French tragic drama. She had played *Camille* in "Les Horaces," *Emilie*, in "Cunéa," *Hermione*, in "Andromaque," *Amenade*, in "Tancrède," *Eriphile*, in "Iphigene en Aulide," and *Monime*, in "Mithridates." To these she shortly added *Rozaane*, in "Bajazet." On this occasion the press—some part of which had espoused the petty jealousies of the young actress's co-associates—made an attempt to draw a cloud over her triumph, and proclaimed *Rozaane* a failure. The public, however, chose to judge for themselves; and at the second, third, and fourth representations, the doors of the theatre were besieged by immense crowds, and the receipts exceeded 6000 francs. Rachel's victory over her enemies was complete. Wreaths and bouquets were nightly showered on her from every part of the house. One evening she came into the green-room with about ten or twelve bouquets in her lap, and poured them down at Provost's feet. "Will you buy them of me," she said, "since you advised me to sell bouquets?" Rachel's salary, which was at first four thousand francs, was increased before the end of 1840 to twenty thousand, which, including what are called *four and gratifications*, made up about sixty thousand francs a year, or one-third more than was received by Mdlle. Mars. Her present salary amounts to forty-two thousand francs for two performances a week during six

months only. Altogether her yearly gains average from 350,000 to 400,000 francs. On the 15th of May, 1840, she made her first appearance in the part of *Pauline*, in "Polyeucte," in which her way of exclaiming the famous "*Je crois!*" made so great an impression, especially among a certain set presided over by the celebrated Madame Recamier, who had taken up Richel and were in hopes of converting her. This was followed in the same year by *Marie Stuart* and *Chimène* (in the "*Cid*").

We shall not repeat all the strictures on the great actress' various personal defects, nor the little artifices of detraction and sweeping assertions of Rachel's want of intelligence and mere parrot-like ability, in which her unscrupulous biographer indulges. With the one set of charges we have nothing to do; as to the remainder, when they do not carry their own contradiction with them, the envious spirit in which they originate is but too apparent.

MUSIC.

GRISI and MARIO made their last appearance this season last Saturday night. Although it was a mere leave-taking for the season—not a word being now said about the retirement of either of them from the stage—yet there was an immense house, and the utmost excitement prevailed. The opera was the "*Huguenots*," and certainly it never was more beautifully performed. The unrivalled pair excelled themselves, and when the curtain fell upon the pathetic scene which closes the third act, the house was positively in a tumult of delight. When the two performers came forward together, the whole audience rose at once, and applauded with the utmost vehemence for several minutes, while the stage was literally covered with showers of bouquets, thrown to the fair *prima donna*. We are glad that it was so, for talent such as theirs cannot be too highly prized. In regard to Grisi, the public have forgotten—or, what is better, forgiven—her formal "farewell" performances of last season; the large sums paid for admission, under the impression that she was to appear no more; and her affecting last adieu, when she disappeared from our sight scarcely able to support herself, and drowned in tears. The memory of all this caused some sensation when her reappearance this season was announced, and audible expressions of disapproval were expected. But any such feeling fled before her presence. The public "looked in her face and forgave her all" and during the whole season she has been more charming, more powerful, and a greater favourite than ever. When Grisi took leave of us with so much sensibility last year, we do not believe (as has been harshly said) that she was only acting. Last year she was not so strong as she is now; she had before her a long and arduous expedition to America, and thought, doubtless, that when she had accomplished that task it would be time to seek ease and quiet on the banks of the Arno. But she found herself in England again, and as able as ever she was to appear before the public. And why should she not? Plans are liable to be changed by circumstances; and Grisi's answer to any taunts on the subject of her return to the stage after having taken leave of it may be something like *Benedick's*—"When I said I would die a bachelor, I did not expect that I should live to be married."

THE "*Etoile du Nord*" has been repeated on Monday and Thursday this week; and it will be performed once more next week, which is announced as the last of the season. The Opera has sustained a great loss in the departure of Lablache, who is succeeded in the character of *Corporal Grizanko* by Tagliafico.

THE "*Prophète*" was performed on Tuesday, with the same cast, and in precisely the same manner, as last year.

An operatic company, of unprecedented magnitude, is about to visit Scotland, Ireland, and the provinces, under the auspices of the enterprising Mr. Leale. It embraces the whole vocal strength of the Royal Italian Opera; including Mesdames Grisi, Posio, Didée, Gassier, Marai, Viardot, and Scialteck; and Messrs. Mario, Tamberlik, Gardoni, Lorini, Tagliafico, Polonini, Graziani, Gassier, and Susini. During the months of August, September, and October, this powerful *troupe* are to give the *chefs d'œuvre* of the Covent-Garden *repertoire* at Edinburgh, Manchester, Birmingham, Liverpool, Hull, Newcastle, Glasgow, Cork, and Belfast.

NEW MUSICAL PUBLICATIONS.

When a new book of instructions for the pianoforte makes its appearance, it becomes a necessary question whether it contains any useful novelty—anything to distinguish it from the multitude of works of the same class already before the public. In some instances the name of the author serves as a guarantee to this effect. When a man eminent in his profession, and of acknowledged intelligence and ability, brings forward a work on his art, professing to give the results of his own large experience, we may safely believe that it is really called for, and will prove useful. This is the case with the "*Essay on Pianoforte Fingering*," which has just appeared from the pen of Mr. Charles Neate. The peculiarity of the book is, that it treats of fingering in connexion with expression. The author observes, very truly, that "the art of fingering on the pianoforte has often been treated of as though it were only intended to be the means of discovering the easiest way of executing notes and passages." He holds that the art of fingering has a much higher claim upon our consideration. "It is, in fact," he says, "or ought to be, the power of giving to music its true character and right expression, to accomplish which it may often be found necessary to finger otherwise than the mere execution of the notes would require." To illustrate this proposition by precept and example is the chief object of his treatise.

To the accomplished pianist this is no novelty. Every fine player shows by his performance that he is aware of the influence of fingering upon expression, as well as execution. It is by diversity of fingering that he will give variety of character to the self-same notes, imparting to them a fresh interest every time they are repeated. But the fine player has acquired this knowledge empirically as it were—by means of his own practice and experience, without any guide to general principles. In all existing methods of fingering, facility of execution is the only point aimed at; where peculiarities of character and expression are required, the player must find methods for himself. But expressive fingering has its principles, from which clear practical rules may be deduced; and Mr. Neate has laid down those principles and pointed out their practical results in a manner which will guide the pupil to many of the greatest delicacies and beauties of pianoforte playing.

To show, by particular examples, how successfully Mr. Neate has accomplished his object, would require the aid of musical typography; but a very attentive examination of the work has convinced us that its object is successfully accomplished, and that it will be a most valuable assistant to the teacher as well as the student of the pianoforte.

Mr. Clinton, the eminent Professor of the Flute, has published a little pamphlet, entitled "A few Practical Hints to Flute-Players upon the subject of Modern Flutes," which will be exceedingly interesting to the amateurs of this elegant instrument. All who are acquainted with the flute know that during the present century it has been in a state of constant improvement. Old amateurs still living can remember when it had but one key. To remedy defects of intonation and difficulties of execution the number of keys was gradually increased to eight, the greatest number in general use. The holes opened by these keys remained shut when they were not touched; so that if the performer did not think proper to use any particular key, he might play in the same manner as if there were no such key at all. Then came an alteration in the mechanism of the instrument of a more sweeping description. The *Boehm Flute* (so called from the name of its inventor) is furnished with keys to close holes when remain open when they are not touched. The effect of this has been to make an entire change in the system of fingering; a person who has learned the common eight-keyed flute cannot play the Boehm flute, and vice versa. The advantages of the Boehm flute, nevertheless, were so great, in regard to equality of tone, truth of intonation, and facility of execution, that it was adopted by many eminent performers, among whom was Mr. Clinton himself.

Still, however, the Boehm flute is attended with the very serious objection already mentioned, that it cannot be used by those who have learned to play in the ordinary manner. The skilful performer must begin again from the beginning; and this is what a skilful performer is not disposed to submit to. Several ingenious men, consequently, have applied themselves to the improvement of the flute without altering its mechanism; and no one, we think, has accomplished this object so successfully as Mr. Clinton. He has constructed an instrument precisely upon the principle of the ordinary flute—the principle, namely, that the keys are used for the purpose of opening holes previously shut; so that, when any key is not touched, the tube is in the same condition as if there were no hole corresponding to that key at all. Mr. Clinton has added several new keys, which have the effect of giving certain notes of the scale with a better tone, and more perfectly in tune than before, and also of facilitating the execution of difficult passages; but the general method of fingering remains unchanged, and the player may use the new keys in whole or in part, or not use any of them, at his pleasure; so that a flute-player who adopts Mr. Clinton's instrument may gradually acquire the use of the new keys, without being debarred, in the meantime, from playing in the ordinary way. This is not the only improvement which Mr. Clinton has

effected. Sounder principles of acoustics have been applied to the boring of the tube and the general construction of the instrument, which have conducted not only to more correct tone, but to a better quality of tone throughout the whole extent of the scale.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE grouse, speaking through the Premier, have uttered their cry of summons, and legislation is to be over in a fortnight. But to go into the House of Commons, one of these evenings, you would think that, like the Greek augurs, they meant to decide not only with regard to the Flight of Birds, but by Dreams also. Such a sleepy-looking assembly it would be difficult to conceive. They were so drowsy the other night that they went hazily out to a division, and only discovered, on taking the numbers, that the two sides together would not make a House. The benches are nearly empty, as the Supplemental Estimates drizzle along, sometimes contested, but usually carried. About three Ministers occupy the Treasury bench—in the centre is Lord Palmerston, sleeping soundly under the shadow of his broad hat, though his well-strapped trousers (to that relic of Paganism, the strap, many elderly dandies still adhere) look too tightly dragged for comfort. A whipper-in keeps about, in case of accident. The regular Opposition stays away, except when some little "spirit" is to be got up; and Mr. Spooner, in the second row, sturdily represents the united force of Protestantism—the simple and colossal effect of his attitude being somewhat marred by his having at the end of his bench one round-faced neighbour, who is always sleeping with his mouth wide open, and with his white hat, fearfully on one side, overhanging the gangway. The Irish benches are vacated. The force of the House, such as it is, remains near the Minister, and gives him two to one on most amenities. Mr. Wilson's preternatural fluency carries the items before him in a flood of figures, against which men who can understand only one thing at a time (and not always that) struggle in vain; and Sir Charles Wood—bets go that he will be "counted out" on his Indian Budget—hammers away at his less convincing but more bewildering logic, until somehow the right nail is knocked on the head, and the vote is seen to be a proper one. And between dozing, being bored, being convinced, and being counted, the House manages, in the course of a most stupid evening, to dispose of a few millions. The strangers still come—those deluded strangers, who come in, all awe and expectation, to see the machine of Government at work, and after the first two hours begin to yawn most irreverently. It is supposed that an entirely new audience comes every night, and that no stranger ever came twice, unless he had to watch a bill, or to bore a member to get some job accomplished. A few days more, and the Parliamentary managers, who, like the postboys, "keep the trot for the avenue," will put on their best pace for the last time, and the "remaining stages" will be got over in no time. And as for reassembling, why, as Lord Palmerston pleasingly said to Major Reed, if Government think it their duty to call Parliament together earlier than usual, of course they will do so.

The Hyde-park investigation proceeds—the three Recorders are hearing the defence of the police. Mr. Superintendent Hughes' evidence is amusing. He admits that he rushed about, with a stern aspect, and some vociferation, for it was necessary to impress the people with a conviction that he was in earnest. But the oaths and execrations laid to his charge he denies, with one exception, which probably he will justify by the example of the great Duke of Wellington. Towards the crisis of a grand day, and as every movement became of enormous consequence, the Duke used to issue his orders, "shotted," and "double-shotted," if necessary—and why not Mr. Superintendent Hughes? The histrionic part of the performance, the "letting the crowd see that he was in earnest," was a master-stroke of genius, it must have been borrowed from the "*Justice in Roderick Random*," who raved and stormed at the supposed culprits; but, being made aware of his mistake, declared, smilingly, that he had done it out of kindness, to make an impression upon them, and deter them from getting into trouble again. Moreover, Mr. Hughes is not the only great man of the present day who uses strong language. People belonging to the political clubs recollect who it was to whom Mr. Disraeli alluded, when Lord Derby's last Ministry was being formed, and it was asked what should be given to a certain person—"O, let him swear in the new members."

It seems to have been as difficult to get the *Marlborough* out of her stocks, as to get a guinea of his stocks out of her great namesake. The new "sea-castle" not only "frowned on the brine," but actually turned restive at being brought to it, like a tiresome brat on the steps of a bathing machine. However, two thousand men got her in at midnight—perhaps as curious an inauguration of a naval career as ever ship had. Irreverent people say that the superiority of mind over matter is triumphantly established by these Government mishaps: while the Dockyard ships stick at everything; the jobbers in Dockyard patronage stick at nothing.

A story, which has obtained considerable circulation, represents some Parisian notoriety as having revived certain practices which, about the middle of the last century, were supposed to be carried on to an alarming extent by divers of the worst members of the aristocratic class in Paris. Spirit-rapping being too ridiculous, and table-turning having been demolished by Professor Faraday with one merciless letter of explanatory sarcasm, the "used up" world has, it is said, taken to downright conjuring of the boldest kind, and black magic is a study in the saloons of the aristocracy. I have heard nothing of it from any private source on which I can rely; but the statement has been printed, and we know the corollary. The story goes that certain ecclesiastics had, moreover, joined in the business—of course with the best intentions, and designing to show the incredulous that there did exist terrible influences from which the Church alone could protect the faithful; but whether the spirits objected to being held up as "awful warnings," like unreformed tipplers at a teetotal meeting, and grew malicious, or whether silly heads were easily disturbed, I do not know, but it is said that these individuals have frightened, not their friends, but themselves, so outrageously that one of them has necessarily been placed in a lunatic asylum. I suspect a good deal of the story to be fudge. It is certain that the foolery of "spiritualism" has driven scores of persons into insanity in America; and I was not sorry to read the other day, in a San Francisco magazine, a detail of a tremendous hoax which had been cruelly and elaborately practised upon Judge Edmonds, one of the most distinguished fanatics. A writer in a periodical cooked up a rather cleverly-told story of his having had communion with the spirit of a man whom he had previously seen die, and whom he names one Lane, I think; and the Judge, in ecstasies at this confirmation of his own insane creed, writes to say that it is all true, for that he also has had communion with the spirit of Lane, who repeated what he had said to the original reporter. Then the latter replies that the whole thing was fiction, and that there was no such person as Lane; and the Judge can only reply that the original spirit-monger is no gentleman.

IRISH AGRICULTURAL RETURN.—The returns just published show that the cultivation of wheat has decreased to a remarkable extent in Ireland, the number of acres in 1853 being forty-five per cent less than in 1850. The extent of land under cattle shows little difference; but barley has decreased about seven per cent. Potatoes, while they only show an increase in acres of about two per cent, have increased in produce about forty-five per cent since 1850, the produce of 1853 crop being 10,000,000 barrels more than that of either 1851 or 1852, and 14,000,000 more than that of 1850.

A NOVEL FREIGHT.—The ship *Sunny South* (says the *San Francisco Herald* of the 19th June) cleared yesterday for China, having on board the dead bodies of 70 Chinamen. It appears that there is a company of Chinamen in this city doing quite an extensive business in disintering and shipping the dead bodies of their countrymen to the order of the relatives of the deceased in China. The cost of the operation is about 50 dollars—a sum willingly expended by the wealthier class of Chinese, who consider it a duty as well as a privilege to pay this tribute of respect to the remains of deceased relatives.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC

A triumphal arch is being erected in front of the terminus of the St.asbourg Railway, in preparation for the visit of Queen Victoria.

The Emperor and Empress of the French arrived in Paris, from Biarritz, on Monday.

The Prince de Joinville is going to Vienna, on a visit to his sister, the Princess of Wurtemberg. He will also visit the Count de Chambord, *en passant*.

The intended visit of the Empress Dowager of Russia to Berlin will not take place until the expiration of the twelve months of mourning.

The Queen is expected to pay her annual visit to Balmoral about the middle of September, and to remain until the 10th or 12th of October. A portion of the new palace will be ready for her Majesty, and will be occupied during the present visit. There is some expectation that the Queen will pay a visit to Lord Panmure, whose principal seat, near Arbroath, is within half a day's journey of Balmoral.

The Duke and Duchess of Montpensier having returned from Darmstadt, the present residence of Prince Augustus of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, the Princess of Orleans, his wife; dined with the Emperor of Austria on July 25, at the château of Luxembourg.

The residence in course of construction for the Emperor and Empress of the French at Biarritz is not as yet completed. The château, which bears the name of Villa-Eugénie, will, when finished, be very handsome.

The marriage of the Grand Duke Nicholas, brother of the Emperor of Russia, to the Princess of Oldenburg, daughter of Prince Peter of Oldenburg, has been positively decided on, and will take place very shortly.

The Queen of Holland left Holland on the 24th ult. for the Rhine, where she was to meet her father, the King of Wurtemberg.

The Duke of Newcastle has arrived at Constantinople by the *Trieste* steamer. The Turkish Ministers were desirous of paying him the most marked attention. Previous to his trip up to Balaklava he was to be presented to the Sultan.

The Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs paid a complimentary visit to the Emperor of the French, at Biarritz.

A letter from Berne mentions the arrival there, on the 27th of July, of the King of Portugal, on his way to Interlaken. Prince Charles of Prussia, Prince Maximilian of Bavaria, and Prince Frederic of Hesse were also at Berne at the above date.

The Sultan has ordered magnificent necklaces in brilliants to be made, as presents to Queen Victoria and the Empress Eugénie; and saddles, also embroidered in brilliants, to be made for the Emperor, the King of Sardinia, and Prince Albert. The value of these presents will be about 2,000,000 *fr.*

Sir James Graham, Bart., M.P., accompanied by Lady Graham and the Misses Graham, leaves town just before the adjournment of the Parliament on a Continental tour, and is not expected to return until the spring of next year. The right hon. Baronet has broken up his town establishment.

The Imperial Court of the Tuileries has gone into mourning for ten days, five full and five half-mourning, for the death of the Princess Lucien Bonaparte.

Lord Lyndhurst left town on Tuesday, accompanied by Lady Lyndhurst and the Hon. Miss Copley, for Dieppe, where the noble and learned Lord makes a brief *séjour* previous to proceeding to Paris.

The soirée of Prince Napoleon, last Saturday evening, at the Palais Royal, which is the last of the season, was a very brilliant one, and most numerous attended. Several of the commissioners of the Foreign Governments, and the members of the international jury, were present, as well as statesmen, savans, artists, and literary men.

The period of the marriage of Prince Adelbert, of Bavaria, with the daughter of Don Francisco de Paula, has not yet been fixed; but the ceremony is to be celebrated with great magnificence at Madrid.

The former reigning Prince of Wallachia, Prince Ghika, died some days ago at Franzensbad, in Bohemia.

The Algerian Commission to the French Exhibition was presented on Saturday to Prince Napoleon by its president, M. Lapaine. The Prince had a long conversation with the principal members, and congratulated them on the importance of the Algerian productions exhibited.

Sir Benjamin Hall's new appointment as First Commissioner of Works does not, as some journals state, involve a seat in the Cabinet for the Right Hon. Baronet.

General Jomini, the well-known military writer, has arrived at Brussels, where he intends to take up his permanent residence.

Mr. Herschel, of London, has been elected foreign corresponding member of the Academy of Sciences, vacant by the death of the celebrated mathematician Gauss.

The Archduke Charles Louis is appointed Governor of the Tyrol. M. Bineau, ex-Minister of Finance, who was some short time since nominated member of the Academy of Moral and Political Sciences, has not accepted the honour, from the delicate state of his health.

The statement that the agents of the British Museum and the agents of Marlborough House bid against each other at the Bernal sale, was denied on Monday night in the House by Mr. Wilson.

Mlle. Cruvelli's approaching retreat from the Opera stage into married life, is formally announced in the musical journals of Paris.

Catherine Hayes has departed from Calcutta for Australia, where her popularity is described as being almost without limit, and her gains beyond all precedent.

The Government have purchased Buckingham-house, Pall-mall, now temporarily occupied by the Carlton Club, as additional accommodation for the War Department.

Meyerbeer has promised to be present during the approaching festival at Birmingham, with the view of making himself well acquainted with the manner in which our great meetings are conducted.

On the 12th ult., at about half-past nine o'clock in the evening, Mr. Knight, correspondent of the *Morning Herald*, was assaulted by four ruffians in the open street in Constantinople, who robbed him of everything he had about him.

The Cantonal Court-martial at Berne was lately called upon to try an Anabaptist, who, being drawn for the army, refused to serve on religious grounds. The Court sentenced him to exile so long as he should persist in his refusal.

The estimated cost of the new Irish National Gallery is £11,000, of which Government contributes £3000 this and the same sum next year, making £6000 in all. The remaining £5000 is made up of subscriptions to commemorate the public services of Mr. Dargan, and is applicable to the object.

The two central Deliberative Assemblies of the Swiss Confederation last week jointly resolved to put in force the laws against enrolment of men on behalf of foreign Powers.

Two more cheap newspapers have died in Sheffield: the penny *Telegraph* and the halfpenny *Morning News*.

Considerable damage has been done in St. Petersburg by violent storms of thunder and lightning. In addition to a number of persons killed or injured, many houses have been damaged.

A young man named Rowland Walters, who poisoned himself on account of a love quarrel, died at Charing-cross Hospital a few days ago.

A meeting has been held at Boston, U.S., to forward the establishment of a projected line of steam-ships between that port and Liverpool.

The City Bank has been advertised to commence business at their temporary offices, Royal-Exchange-buildings, on Monday next.

The fourpenny stamps about to be issued are the same size and shape as the penny stamps. Their colour is a very light red. The Queen's head is enclosed in a round border, and the words "Postage, fourpence," are printed on curved lines.

The French Geological Society will hold an extraordinary meeting this year in the neighbourhood of Paris, to enable foreigners who may be in the capital for the Exhibition to take part in their researches.

In New York on Saturday, the 30th June, the heat was intense. Upwards of a dozen deaths took place by sun-strokes.

The Emigration Commissioners have advertised for a vessel to proceed to Adelaide; to be ready for passengers between the 20th and 30th of September.

A private letter from Athens announces that the currants appear to have escaped this year the fatal malady of the vines, which devastated them during three years consecutively.

In consequence of the recent events at Barcelona, 1200 persons have quitted the place; more than 500,000,000 reals have been withdrawn from circulation; and several manufacturers have determined to remove their establishments to other provinces.

The population of Brussels on the 31st of December, 1854, amounted to 255,225 persons, of whom 163,009 belonged to the city, and 92,216 to the faubourgs.

The Diet of Denmark is convoked for the 11th of August.

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